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# American Houdan Club



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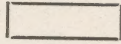


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# FOREWORD



It is with pleasure that we place in your hands this, the first Catalogue issued by the American Houdan Club for several years. And it is also with some little pride that we contemplate what we believe will be but the first of many Annual Catalogues to be issued by the Club.

It was intended that we should issue a Catalogue last year. But our membership was small, and it was hard to get enough support to warrant going ahead with the work.

Again, when your present officers were elected for the present year, we hoped to have the Catalogue ready early in the spring, and the writer started work getting ads and articles last March. But again difficulties were encountered that delayed the work, and on account of the illness of Mr. D. P. Shove, who was Secretary for the last few years, I did not get a full list of the members till along in the summer. And other matters came up in the meantime which greatly affected the welfare of the Club, and it was deemed advisable to delay the publication of the Catalogue till these matters were satisfactorily settled. These matters, we trust, are now safely settled, and we are at last able to present to you the long looked for Catalogue.

And in presenting it I take the opportunity of thanking all those who have made the publication possible by sending articles and ads for it, and I especially thank our advertisers for the consideration and patience they have shown during the long wait since they sent in their money for the ads.

Now a few words in regard to the Club. The growth during the past year and a half has been great. Starting the year 1909 with about twenty members, we had on September 1st, 1910, one hundred and twelve members, and the names are still coming in. We want this growth to

continue, and it will continue if all the members of the Club take hold and help to bring the Club to the notice of their friends and customers.

The show season will soon commence, and we are going to come in contact with many breeders and fanciers. When we meet them put in a good word for the Club. Have some application blanks on hand. You can get a supply from the Secretary, and if we all work in this way, the membership of the Club can be doubled before January 1st.

Finally, please don't forget to pay your dues promptly. It is a small matter, only a dollar, but unless these dollars are paid on time we cannot keep moving. So, help the Club, and make it easier for the Secretary by sending in your dues promptly.

Trusting that the contents of this Catalogue may prove both useful and interesting to you, and that it may increase the interest in the good old Houdan,

We are yours fraternally,

THE AMERICAN HOUDAN CLUB,

James Abernethy, Secretary.





# Officers of the Club

1910.

## PRESIDENT.

✧ John T. Heizer, 379 E. Northwood Ave., Columbus, Ohio.

## GENERAL VICE-PRESIDENT.

John Baber, Lawson, Mo.

## SECRETARY-TREASURER.

✧ James Abernethy, West Pembroke, Me.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Dr. George W. Taylor, Orleans, Ind.

✧ C. E. Arnold, Babylon, L. I., N. Y.

## STATE VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Arizona—W. C. Davis, 714 F Ave., Douglas.

Arkansas—William E. Overstreet, Little Rock.

California—Mrs. Emma F. Reid, San Jose.

Canada—E. Pickering, 74 Stephenson Ave., Toronto, Ont.

✧ Connecticut—F. J. Reverly, East Haven.

Florida—Warren C. Snedden, Jensen.

Idaho—Edw. Jeffers, Box 455, Boise.

Illinois—Dr. H. D. Myers, Decatur.

Indiana—L. F. Kirby, Orleans.

Iowa—H. M. Sparboe, Webster City.

Kansas—W. L. Bullene, Lawrence.

Maryland—Mrs. W. L. Spencer, Waverly, Baltimore.

✧ Massachusetts—Hiram W. Preston, Prides Crossing.

Minnesota—Geo. M. McCrea, Minneapolis.

Missouri—A. H. Weisburg, Nevada.

Michigan—Will M. Beadle, Marcellus.

Montana—Mrs. Mattie McMullen, Missoula.

Nebraska—O. E. Henning, Wahoo.

New Jersey—Elmer D. Ogden, Bridgeton.

New York—John W. Lenox, Hollis, L. I.

Ohio—Scott A. Clark, Sullivan.

Oklahoma—A. L. Churchill, Vinita.

Oregon—Mrs. M. P. Fletcher, Eugene.

Pennsylvania—J. Emlen Smith, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia.

✧ Rhode Island—F. A. Rowsell, Valley Falls.

Vermont—Guy B. Townsend, Rutland.

Washington—J. Z. McMurray, Lacoma.

Wisconsin—L. F. Frankfurth, 119 W. Water St., Milwaukee.

Wyoming—C. E. Hoel, Cheyenne.



# List of Members



## ARIZONA.

Davis, W. C., 714 F Ave., Douglas.

## ARKANSAS.

Overstreet, Wm. E., Little Rock.

## CALIFORNIA.

Bessey, A. W., Sunnyvale.  
Forsyth, G. T., Oakland.  
Gallup, Elias, Hanford.  
Hood, F. C., Gold Run.  
Reid, Mrs. Emma F., San Jose.

## CONNECTICUT.

Crosby, Chas. D., Riverside.  
Gough, John A., Box 563, Meriden.  
Groesbeck, F. O., Hartford.  
Hayes, Miss M., Manchester.  
Jackson, Arthur M., Hartford.  
Reveley, F. J., East Haven.  
Strong, D. T., Middle Haddan.

## CANADA.

Pickering, E., 74 Stephenson Ave., Toronto, Ont.

## FLORIDA.

Snedden, Warren C., Jensen.

## IDAHO.

Conrad, Ralph W., Engle.  
Jeffers, Edw., Box 455, Boise.  
Marks, Albert A., Nampa.

## ILLINOIS.

Baker, John M., Peoria.  
Braden, John W., Dixon.  
Myers, Dr. H. D., Decatur.  
Price, D. P., 152 So. Porter St., Elgin.



## INDIANA.

Billman, G. G., Evansville.  
Kirby, L. F., Orleans.  
Taylor, Dr. Geo. W., Orleans.  
Troth, Robert A., Orleans.

## IOWA.

Rigg, Thos. F., Iowa Falls.  
Sparboe, H. M., Webster City.

## KANSAS.

Bullene, W. L., Lawrence.

## MARYLAND.

Brown, Geo. O., Baltimore.  
Metcalf, Arley C., 926 Light St., Baltimore.  
Spencer, Mrs. W. L., Waverly, Baltimore.

## MAINE.

Abernethy, Jas., West Pembroke.

## MASSACHUSETTS.

Preston, Hiram W., Prides Crossing.  
Shove, D. P., Fall River.  
Earl, Mrs. Gertrude O., West Quincy.

## MINNESOTA.

Jones, P. W., Minneapolis.  
McCrea, Geo. M., Minneapolis.  
Wolf, Oscar, Minneapolis.

## MISSOURI.

Baber, John, Lawson.  
Batts, Mrs. Bettie, Bosworth.  
Clinkerbeard, R. A., Liberty.  
Denny, T. W., Walker.  
Hughes, Geo. M., 2507 Elmwood Ave., Kansas City.  
Kessinger, A. J., St. Louis.  
Morton, Robert L., St. Louis.  
Weisburg, A. H., Nevada.  
Wickizer, Frank, 3001 Jule St., St. Joseph.

## MICHIGAN.

Beadle, Will M., Marcellus.



## MONTANA.

McMullen, Mrs. Mattie, Missoula.

## NEBRASKA.

Henning, O. E., Wahoo.

Malley, J. D., Lebanon.

## NEW JERSEY.

Dennis, Tremaine, Bridgeton.

Fink, Louis, Jr., Lamal Springs.

Ogden, Elmer D., Bridgeton.

Robbins, Asher M., Bridgeton.

Snelling, Mrs. J. P., Towaco.

Ware, B. B., Bridgeton.

## NEW YORK.

Arnold, Chas. E., Babylon, L. I.

Billard, H. W., Queens, L. I.

Bowen, W. H., Little Valley.

Brown, C. C., So. Otseletic.

Brown, C. A., Sayville, L. I.

Campbell, C. B., 595 Fargo Ave., Buffalo.

Doan, John K., Cooperstown.

Frisbee, M. C., Oneonto.

Gamewell, John A., 80 Fifth Ave., New York.

Lassell, W. T., Sparkill.

Lenox, John W., Hollis, L. I.

Llangollen Farm, Great Neck, L. I.

Robison & Turck, Canadaigua.

Ross, Dr. F. W., Main St., Elmira.

Schwingel, Wm. G., 9 Liberty St., Danville.

Vogal, Geo. H., Munson, L. I.

## OHIO.

Abbott, Fred W., Wellington.

Clark, Scott A., Sullivan.

Cobb, Howard J., 545 E. Erie Ave., Lorain.

Heizer, John T., 379 E. Northwood Ave., Columbus.

Jones, Walter E., London.

Metzler, John L., Findlay.

Sherman, Mrs. C., Arcadia.

Veldhuis, Dr. G. H., Cleveland.



## OKLAHOMA.

Churchill, A. L., Vinita.  
Edwards, P. J., Muskogee.

## OREGON.

Fleming, Wm., Salem.  
Fletcher, Mrs. M. P., Eugene.  
Miles, Herbert, Route 2, Gilbert Station, Lents.

## PENNSYLVANIA.

Ballard, Ellis Ames, 1242 Land Title Bldg., Broad St  
Philadelphia.  
Canterbury, J. H., 2934 Frink St., Scranton.  
Degelman, Wm. C., 435 Sixth Ave., Pittsburg.  
Gangler, Wm. L., Limerick.  
Guignet, Geo., Carlisle.  
Hayes, C. M., Titusville.  
Rearick, J. W., Chambersburg.  
Roth, H. D., Franconia.  
Smith, J. Emlen, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia.  
Springman, Harry, Williamsport.  
Stowman, Walter, Flourtown.  
Mosebach, F. A., Bethlehem.

## RHODE ISLAND.

Carrey, A. C., Valley Falls.  
Rowsell, F. A., Peace-Dale.

## VERMONT.

Townsend, Guy B., Rutland.

## WASHIINGTON.

Barr, H. E., Dayton.  
McMurray, J. L., Court House, Tacoma.  
Munson, John E., Spokane.  
Roach, Laurence, Everett.

## WISCONSIN.

Barnum, W. W., New Richmond.  
Frankfurth, L. F., 119 W. Water St., Milwaukee.  
Jones, Mrs. Lloyd, Hillside.  
Holt, F. J., Janesville.

## WYOMING.

Hoel, C. E., Cheyenne.

# CONSTITUTION

## OF

# The American Houdan Club

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1. This Club will be called the "American Houdan Club."
2. The object of the Club shall be to promote and increase the breeding and popularity of the Houdan among the great body of fanciers, utility poultrymen and those keeping fowls to furnish eggs and meat for the family use. To stand unitedly for the standard as officially declared and to urge all breeders to conform to it.
3. The officers of the Club shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, a State Vice-President from each State and Province represented, and an Executive Committee of not less than three members. All officers except State Vice Presidents shall be elected by all members voting by mail to the Secretary, who shall open and count the ballots at the annual meeting. The State Vice-Presidents shall be elected by all members of the Club in their respective States, voting in the same manner. The officers shall serve from the end of one regular annual meeting to the end of the next regular annual meeting. No one can hold the same office for more than two consecutive years, and no one can hold two or more offices at the same time.
4. There shall be a regular annual meeting; the time and place for holding same shall be determined by the Club members voting by mail to the Secretary-Treasurer. Three members shall constitute a quorum. A special meeting can be called by the President or two members of the Executive Committee.

The order of business at all meetings of the club to be:

1. Roll call.
2. Reading of minutes of previous meeting.
3. Reading of full report of Secretary-Treasurer.
4. Reading of communications.
5. Unfinished business.
6. New business.
7. Reading of list of members gained and lost.
8. Counting of ballots and announcement of election of new officers.
9. Discussion of plans for increasing membership of club, and general exchange of ideas.
10. Adjournment.



5. The President is the Chief Executive Officer, and shall preside at all meetings and appoint all special committees. He shall recommend policy and action to the Executive Committee, authorize the Secretary-Treasurer to transact such business as has been decided on, and to see that the policy and business of the Club is carried out with energy and dispatch.

The Vice-President shall be chairman of the Executive Committee and in case of absence of the President, he is to act as President. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a record of all business of the Club, attend promptly to all correspondence, receive all moneys and disburse same when authorized by voucher signed by the President, keep members notified of date and place of meetings, receive and record ballots and keep members informed of all important matters relating to the Club. At each annual meeting he shall make a full written report of moneys received and disbursed, members added or lost and any other important matters of interest to the Club.

The Executive Committee should outline the work of the Club, receive and take action on the recommendations of the President and notify him of their decisions. The State Vice-Presidents shall look after the interests of the Club and the Houdan in their respective states, solicit new members, make suggestions in regard to offering of Cups, Ribbons, or Cash Prizes. They should report to the President and preside at meetings when the President and Vice-President are both absent. The members who are not officers shall also do all in their power to advance the interests of the Club and the Houdan. They should support the Club financially and morally, ask every Houdan breeder known to them, and their customers to join the Club, and to so conduct their poultry business that the public may learn to know that when they deal with a member of the American Houdan Club they are dealing with a reliable poultryman. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the officers of the Club it shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

6. Application for membership must be made to the Secretary-Treasurer and must be accompanied by one dollar, which will include membership fee and first year's dues. No person shall be enrolled as a member until after such fee and dues have been paid. Annual dues after first year shall be one dollar. Upon payment of \$10.00 a life membership card will be issued entitling the holder to all the benefits of the Club without further payment of dues. All past holders of life memberships are hereby established in their standing as life members.

All dues must be paid by November 1st. The Secretary-Treasurer shall notify all members in arrears of dues, and if same are not paid by December 1st, he or they shall be dropped from the Club.

Any member or officer of the Club who, after complaint, is found guilty of conduct unbecoming a gentleman, a poultryman and a Club member, shall be expelled by a two-thirds vote of all the officers, and

notice of action may be sent to leading Poultry Journals. Resignations may be made by giving written notice to the Secretary-Treasurer. No resignation can be accepted if the member is in arrear of dues, or if there be any charges pending against him.

7. All money left after running expenses are paid shall be expended as follows:

|                                                      |     |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| For Cups, Ribbons or Cash Prizes at Poultry Shows... | 80% |
| For Cash Reserve.....                                | 20% |

All prizes offered by the Club shall be open for competition only to birds owned and exhibited by Club members. Prizes shall be offered at such shows as in the opinion of the Executive Committee, acting with advice of State Vice-Presidents, seems most advisable. Prizes shall be apportioned in different States and Sections in proportion to the number of Club members therein as nearly as can be determined.

8. The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all members who respond to the call for vote either by mail or in person.

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# Club Specials



In every State or Province having seven or more members, the Club will offer a handsome Silver Cup for the best display of Houdans shown by a member of the Club residing in that State or Province, and the member winning the most points on Houdans, regardless of the number of entries shall be declared the winner. Cups may also be offered at such Shows as the Executive Committee may deem advisable.

And a Cup shall be offered at the Show where the Club holds its Annual Meeting, which Cup shall be open to competition of all the members of the Club.

In all contests for Cups offered by the Club for the best display, the following Scale of Points shall decide the winner:

Single birds—First prize, 10 points; second prize, 8 points; third prize, 6 points; fourth prize, 4 points; fifth prize, 2 points. Pens—First prize, 15 points; second prize, 12 points; third prize, 9 points; fourth prize, 6 points; fifth prize, 3 points.

State Vice-Presidents should make special efforts to secure enough members in their States to entitle them to a State Cup.

Special Ribbons will be offered by the Club at such Shows as the Executive Committee, acting with the advice of the State Vice-Presidents, shall deem advisable.



# SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1909.

Jan. 1, 1909.

Dr.

|                                          |         |                 |
|------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| To Cash on hand.....                     | \$ 6.30 |                 |
| " Membership fees and dues for year..... | 78.00   |                 |
| " Amount received for advertising.....   | 5.00    |                 |
|                                          |         | <u>\$ 89.30</u> |

Cr.

|                                               |          |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| By Postage .....                              | \$ 16.40 |                 |
| " Printing .....                              | 6.25     |                 |
| " Expressage .....                            | 1.95     |                 |
| " Dr. G. W. Taylor, for election ballots..... | 5.96     |                 |
| " Badges and ribbons.....                     | 10.20    |                 |
| " Special prizes .....                        | 15.00    |                 |
| " Cash on hand.....                           | 33.54    |                 |
|                                               |          | <u>\$ 89.30</u> |

DANIEL P. SHOVE, Secretary-Treasurer.

## REPORT OF SECRETARY-TREASURER.

|                                         |    |            |
|-----------------------------------------|----|------------|
| Membership January 1st, 1910.....       | 85 |            |
| New members, Jan. 1st to Sept. 1st..... | 30 |            |
|                                         |    | <u>115</u> |
| Resigned .....                          | 3  |            |
| Membership Sept. 1st, 1910.....         |    | 112        |

### Cash Statement.

Dr.

|                                          |          |                 |
|------------------------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| To Cash from D. P. Shove, Secretary..... | \$ 33.54 |                 |
| " Membership fees .....                  | 30.00    |                 |
| " Dues .....                             | 18.00    |                 |
| " Advertising for Catalogue.....         | 62.00    |                 |
|                                          |          | <u>\$143.54</u> |

Cr.

|                             |         |                 |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| By Postage .....            | \$ 8.42 |                 |
| " Expressage .....          | 2.95    |                 |
| " Stationery .....          | .60     |                 |
| " Typewriting letters ..... | 1.50    |                 |
| " Special ribbons .....     | 5.00    |                 |
| " Cash on hand.....         | 125.07  |                 |
|                             |         | <u>\$143.54</u> |

From the above amount the expense of getting out the Catalogue has to be met.

JAS. ABERNETHY, Secretary-Treasurer.

September 1st, 1910.

# HOUDANS



It is very gratifying to see that the Houdans are growing in favor. Their utility excellence is a great surprise to beginners with them. The splendid large white eggs, and the amount of rich, juicy meat, especially breast, that they produce. Their unique personality or type of beauty has been their chief attraction, and there has been too little said of their utility—simply because few people probably have duly ascertained their great value in this direction. Houdans dress with more meat and less of fat pound for pound of carcass than any other breed. The French are great epicures, and the Houdan is the favorite table fowl. If eggs were sold by weight the Houdan would hold its own in egg production with any breed. They are hardy, the young chicks growing very fast. The fowls are docile—contented in small runs. With the modern ideas in hen houses and scratching sheds there is great opportunity to prove the utility value of the breed. The chief drawback with all crested breeds is their tendency to colds from running out in cold rains. With scratching sheds, they can find suitable employment exercise and be independent of the weather.

The Houdan of today is a magnificent looker. The uniform quality now seen at the shows is emphatic evidence of the progress that is being made in breeding them. At our recent Baltimore show the Houdan pens seemed to be one of the greatest drawing cards to the city visitors.

The Houdan possesses all the desirable qualities of a useful breed—general—except the incubation. I have had Houdan hens sit, hatch and care for broods—and with satisfactory results.

I am glad to note there are now among the Houdan breeders a number of men who are genuine fanciers. Men who love their flocks with a love that is not prompted by dollars and cents. It is this class of fanciers who build up breeds, and help smooth away the too much cold-hearted commercial grasp, that creeps in.

Houdans are very docile, and readily become attached to their keepers, and will cheerily respond in chicken chatter to the endearments so often indulged by their fond owners. Years ago, at Madison Square Garden, New York, after I had finished judging, a gentleman approached me and said: "I stood at the end of the row and watched you judge the Houdans. I knew by the way you handled them that you had bred and raised them. The way you took them from the coops and put them back—not one made a fuss. I believe they knew you liked them." That was the way I got acquainted with Uncle Daniel Pinckney, of South Onondaga, N. Y. I then told him what pets some of my Hou-



dans were. He listened attentively and then told me how each one of his birds was a pet, each had an individuality that he and his wife recognized. The confidence they showed he said was almost human. "They are like children to us," he said. So we both understood, without the telling, that there were others who were "foolish" over chickens, and could see something more than dollars and cents in them. In these days of scratching sheds, hopper feeding, and other modern methods of poultry culture, all the prejudice against **crested** breeds should be obliterated.

Writing about Houdans makes me wish I was back again on the farm. I used to sit under the orchard trees and my Houdans would come up and peck at my coat pockets—sit up on my knee and wait for me to cut slices of apples for them. They would follow in a fresh turned furrow in spring and I'd have to stop time and again to lift them out of the way to prevent the horses treading on them. How they rewarded all my care of them with a lot of great big white eggs. I used to almost imagine I could see the youngsters grow. I gave a hen to a lady—just because she admired her so—she made a great pet of "Dolly." When "Dolly" wanted to lay she would come on the porch and peck on the dining room window; when let in she would go to a basket in the corner of the room and deposit the egg, come off and sing—not cackle. Finally "Dolly" was set in the corner, and she hatched out a brood. She never paid any attention to domestic transactions. She was lifted off daily at a regular hour and put in the yard, and in due time she came and knocked for admission on the window pane. She never caused any trouble during the sitting.

If some beginners want a breed that is handsome, quiet, friendly, and that possess profitable qualities—let them try Houdans.

Baltimore, Md.

GEO. O. BROWN.

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## Houdans of the Past, Present and Future

The Houdan possesses three qualities that made it popular thirty years ago, namely: Beauty, size and utility. It would be just as popular today, and even more so, if breeders had stuck to all three qualities enumerated above. Breeding too much for size of crests and beards, and for too much black in the plumage, caused a decline in size and departure from the old accepted Dorking type.

Beautiful globular and flowing crests that topped the heads of modern Houdans, were often produced at a sacrifice in weight or size

and in shape chiefly. Even the grand tail of the Houdan became shorter and kept company with a short back that is foreign to the Houdan of the past. We do not say that all Houdans are becoming smaller in size and less typical in shape, for some of our old breeders have recovered their grip and are breeding along the old lines again. Recent importations from England indicate that fanciers on the other side of the Atlantic are getting plenty of size and good type, along with nice crests and color. Even the butterfly comb favored by English breeders is of good size when the birds land in America. Sometimes, not always, they undergo an operation and the leaf comb becomes a smaller V comb. Personally we see no objection to the butterfly comb and believe it adds to the character of the head. As to weights we believe the English standard is nearer the mark than the American standard of perfection. The standard weights in England are: Cocks, 8 to 9 pounds; cockerels, 6 to 7 pounds; hens, 6 to 7 pounds; pullets, 5 to 6 pounds. The English standard also remarks: "If above these weights so much the better." The claim made by some breeders that such weights cannot be attained in this country, is not borne out by the experience of such old breeders as Daniel Pinckney, James Forsythe and several Canadian breeders. They bred birds above our present standard weight a quarter of a century ago. We handled a few in those days, and know that with proper selection and good handling strapping big Houdans could be produced, and birds that were not coarse, but symmetrical, stylish and well featured. We bred the old Pinckney strain, which in color was about the best to be had in those days, and the birds were fairly dark in color, coming close to the new standard description of every feather in five tipped with white. We also had some imported English Houdans that were great in size with good crests, but were very light in color, the white predominating. Some Houdans imported from France in 1890 had weight, size and shape, but were weak in crests and very light in color. Some very large well shaped birds having fine crests and excellent mottling were shown this season at the Baltimore and Philadelphia Shows, and some individually beautiful specimens appeared at the New York Show.

We believe the Houdan is coming back to its own, and is determined to be among the most attractive and useful breeds in America. That it has received some hard jolts in the past five years by misrepresentation of commercial dealers, is history. Houdans always were ranked as extraordinary good layers of large white eggs, especially twenty or thirty years ago, "Uncle Dan" Pinckney having a record of a Houdan that laid 91 eggs in 100 days from which 64 chickens were raised to maturity. But Houdans as a rule are not breaking into "200 eggs per annum class" of laying hens, so proudly and profitably advertised by interested parties. A hen or pullet of any variety or breed that lays 200 eggs in twelve months is a regular bank, with splendid



white eggs selling at five cents each in New York City. No doubt there are individual specimens that will go considerably over the 200 egg mark, but these are the exception, not the rule. Nothing is gained by misrepresenting the laying qualities of Houdans or any other breed. Houdans when well handled and properly selected, will shell out 12 or more dozen of the most saleable white eggs per capita each year, and that is a pretty nice income even with eggs as low as two cents each.

As to the table qualities of Houdans, they are valued most highly by French cooks, and Frenchmen know how to prepare chickens for the table in the most tempting manner. But they must have the material to work with. This the Houdan furnishes, being small boned, deep breasted, coated with a tender white skin. But we cannot supply those juicy large white meaty carcasses by breeding from undersized Houdans. That is one of the reasons why we should encourage a little more weight in the American standard bred Houdan.

New York City, March 14, 1910.

J. H. DREVENSTEDT.

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## Why the Houdan Breeders Should Become Members

When a sensible man comes to the conclusion that it is necessary for him to raise poultry he will first ask his friends' or neighbors' advice on which breed of fowl they think are the best for his purpose. After he has been in the business a short time, if he is really a progressive poultryman, he will become interested in the shows held by the various poultry organizations in or near the locality in which he resides. Let us take into consideration what he finds at the average show when he gets there: Invariably the Asiatic, Mediterranean, American, in other words the so-called Utility Breeds well represented, but the real genuine fowl he will find very few of. These are the crested breeds, viz., the Houdan. This statement may sound very strong, and yet any person who has ever bred Houdans knows it to be a fact. Today you cannot find a fowl that excels the Houdan as a table fowl. It will be found to equal any Brahma or Cochin in size, after the surplus fat has been trimmed from their carcass, and it will easily outweigh them when dressed for solid meat, good breast, thigh and back. As egg producers they lay just as large an egg as do these breeds, but absolutely discount them in the quantity of production. That a flock of thirty Houdans will repay their breeders in actual return for money invested as much as fifty specimens of these other breeds is my own personal belief and experience. However, in spite of this fact the Houdan does not receive the recognition it should in either the poultry shows or papers, although

the past year has seen a big advancement of what it had been previously. The real reason of this neglect may be really traced to the Houdan breeders themselves. The old adage of "hide your light under a bushel" is just as true today as it ever was or has been. For several years they have had the American Houdan Club but its membership is small in comparison with what it should be. Every breeder, no matter how small a flock he might own, should be a member. For this reason: That the poultry organizations recognize the breeds that show the large club memberships. When it comes to special prizes the committees on prizes will invariably be found to be breeders of so-called utility fowls, in other words fowls that cannot compare with the Houdan but classing the latter as fancy, emphasizing it as a stigma. The Houdan IS a fancy fowl combining the superiority of being thoroughbred with egg productiveness and table qualifications. But how are the public to know this fact if there is never any demonstration of it for them to acquaint themselves with. A single breeder will receive no consideration from an organization composed of mongrel utility fowl breeders. While an organized band of any class can demand recognition and will always get it. At the Great Boston Show in January, 1910, an organization was formed, of which I have the honor to be secretary, for the purpose of assisting all clubs and organizations interested in the various crested breeds. It is called the Crested Fowl Breeders Association of America, and its object is exactly the same in regard to the Houdan breeder as is the Houdan Club's. At this time I extend to every member a most cordial invitation to join us. While your officers are trying to instill into the minds of the different secretaries of poultry shows the importance of a big display of Houdans, our officers are doing the same thing in other places. Co-operation is the lever that will lift the Houdan fowl to the position in the poultry world that it should occupy. Your initiation fees or dues will bring you in much better returns than can be derived from any other source whatsoever. Should you place an advertisement in a poultry paper it goes to a great many persons that never take the slightest notice of it, but when your name and address are placed on the club lists it goes direct to persons that are interested in Houdans, and any person may secure these and investigate for themselves. By this I do not advocate that persons should not advertise in the poultry papers, but should pick out the particular papers that are willing to recognize the Houdan by writing it up. Do not advertise indiscriminately but use the columns of the papers that help you. Join the organizations that are benefiting the Houdan fowl and show in the show that does likewise. It seems to me that the smallest breeder could at least make one entry at the annual meeting of the club. It is a very little you may think, but it may be the straw weight in the balance to make the Houdan class the largest in the show. It is not because the Rock or Dotte is such a marvelous fowl that we see



so many of them at our shows, but because they are backed by organized bodies of men that pushed them to the front. The American Houdan Club has good live officers. The Houdan fowl is a better fowl than any "Rock" or "Dotte" that ever was seen. The breeder of Houdans has the advantage of an older and better breed to work with a good club started. But he must combine the two. If every breeder should become a joiner in ten years the Houdan fowl would be the predominating breed at every show. As Superintendent of Crested Breeds, Boston Show, I extend a most cordial invitation to every breeder to show with us in 1911. No show in the country is working harder for the Houdan than we are. Secretary Atherton is a great admirer of the breed and will do all in his power to further the interest of the Houdan, not only in the show, but also every week of the year in the American Stockkeeper, of which he is editor. Become a Jiner. Do not think that because you don't get an order for stock the day after you join that the club is no good, but work for the club, get others to do the same. Don't think that the amount you do, or can do, is so small that it is no good, because it is; it all helps and when the breeders learn this and work upon it the greater will become the popularity of the finest of poultry, the Houdan fowl.

JOHN A. GOUGH,

Supt. Crested Breed Dept., Boston Show.

Meriden, Conn.

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## A First Lesson in Advertising



One of the problems that confronts the poultryman is to dispose of his surplus stock at a profit. Culls, of course, should be sold to market, but after the breeder has selected his own show and breeding stock, his surplus should be sold to others who either want to start in the business or improve the strain they already have.

The poultry press is the accepted medium for the disposal of all such stock and it only remains for the poultryman to determine which paper will best serve his purpose. This choice should be made after careful study of the different papers, as to the class of buyers they reach. A breeder having only utility stock for sale wastes his money trying to reach the man looking for new blood to improve his strain. Neither should the breeder of high class show stock advertise in journals catering to the class to whom "a chicken is a chicken" regardless of whether or not it is an ideal specimen. It is also a waste for the small advertiser to advertise in what are known as "repeaters."

By these are meant papers covering the same field as those by which the advertiser is already represented. Those carrying large space cannot well avoid this, but the smaller breeder can select his papers so as to reach the maximum number of readers at the minimum expense. Should the advertiser do enough business to justify, this matter could easily be settled by giving his contract to some good advertising company that makes a business of placing advertising where it will get results. But to the man who has only a few birds to dispose of each year, this method is not practical. He must choose for himself, and his first effort will be more or less an experiment. Should he use two or more journals, his advertising should be keyed and a record made of all inquiries received and sales made. This will enable him to cut off all papers that do not show a profit, which is just as important as killing the hen that does not lay.

This brings us up to writing the ad, where of course all keying is done. It is a hard matter to tell just what should be written as this must be governed by conditions. Should the advertiser choose the breeders' cards or classified advertisements, he then should make his name or the name of the strain prominent. He is in a class of one variety and should endeavor to convince the reader that it is from him that he should buy, rather than from the others who are advertising in the same column. This can best be done by making your winnings and name equally prominent. But should you choose the display advertising, you should always keep in mind that unless you are one of the largest breeders and your name has become connected with your breed in such a way that one can't think of your breed without thinking of you, it is well for you to make the name of your breed prominent and let your descriptive matter and name follow in more modest form. When the reader is looking through the advertisements for breeders of Houdans, he will be more likely to see the large word "Houdan" than he will the equally large "John Smith, breeder of Houdans."

Do not use pictures of yourself. A cut of an extra fine bird is a good advertisement but most journals are glad to have them and will run them free of charge to you, giving you proper credit. Be concise and state your proposition in a straight forward manner. Do not overlook any of the good points possessed by your birds, but don't make claims you can't make good. Remember that you are talking to an intelligent people and that they have a right to expect everything you promise in your advertisement.

No one can appreciate the value of fair representation more than myself. In my two years as President of your club I have had ample opportunity to see the results of false claims. "Thousand dollar birds," "286 eggs per year, with egg record stamped on inside of sealed leg band," "birds scoring 100 plus," and "Remember, no matter what the competition, I can furnish the winners," have all come in for their share of complaints. The old breeder is not fooled by these claims and the



amateur is fooled only for a short time. Then the Houdan loses an advocate, and we lose the sales to one who would, from time to time, be in the market for stock or eggs. Blow your horn if you will, but blow only about the things you really have. Remember at all times that a pleased customer is your best advertisement and that a dissatisfied one means the loss of the money spent in reaching him.

Figure closely how much you have to sell and how much you can afford to pay for selling it. Then keep within your limit. This may not be possible the first year but with the system of keying and records above mentioned, there is no reason for failure afterward.

By keying, is meant the arrangement of the advertisement in each paper so that the inquirer will let you know where he saw your ad. The usual way is a different box or drawer number in each paper, but I find it best to key the ads so that the inquirer unconsciously mentions it when writing. A little study will suggest a number of ways in which this can be done.

When the inquiries begin to come you should have a book or cards for recording them. Each paper should have a page or card on which should be kept a record of inquiries received, sales made, and what grade of stock or eggs were sold. At the close of the season you can balance your account with each paper and will be in a position to place your advertising intelligently the next. The inquiries and sales made will tell you what papers bring results in that way, and the grade of stock or eggs sold will enable you to know what class of breeders is reached by each paper.

I have found it profitable to so word my ads as to get an inquiry rather than to try to make the sale direct from the advertisement. Then with the aid of a nice catalog or mating list and personal letters, the wants of each customer can be ascertained and more and better sales made.

JOHN T. HEIZER.

Columbus, Ohio.

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## The Houdan Beautiful



Here again we find the time worn saying that "handsome is that handsome does," holding as good as ever. Beauty in a fowl to be complete, must combine those qualities which are pleasing to the eye with those which appear to us as being of practical value. The bird that most perfectly combines these characteristics is the one which may rightfully lay claim to beauty in its highest degree. For this reason the Houdan has been chosen by the great number of enterprising breeders

now constituting the membership of the American Houdan Club. And it is also for this reason we want everybody to know the actual truth concerning the breed we as a club have undertaken to champion.

We will tolerate neither fictitious show records, nor juggled egg production claims, for the beauty of the Houdan is real and not imaginary.

In this breed the old theory that a highly bred and beautiful bird is not a good layer or productive breeder, has been exploded. For breeding to a high ideal has intensified these qualities in the Houdan to a degree unsurpassed by any other variety of fowl. The very conformation that makes them beautiful is the perfect type of robust construction and productive capacity. This rule holds good in other instances. Note the horse which most quickly appeals to the eye. It is not the ewe necked, cat hammed animal with a narrow chest, but one with a full neck, wide breast, round barrel, and well placed hind quarters, which qualities impart to him strength, speed and endurance, and are the very foundation of his usefulness. And so with the "Houdan Beautiful." With broad robust back, breast both wide and deep, body long, and legs set well apart. If it be a hen, therein lies the capacity for assimilation and production. Or be it a cock, to strut more proudly, and crow his boast more loudly of chicks produced, and more to follow.

Houdan breeders have not been misled by the size craze. Extreme size looks well in Brahma form, or Cochins feathers, and the slender sprightliness of the Leghorn is to be admired, but the Houdan has a size and type all its own. While it is large enough for practical use, it is not so large as to be lazy or an expensive fowl to feed.

"The Houdan Beautiful" must be complete and well developed in all the breed characteristics, such as its splendid shape, beautiful plumage with its numerous but small mottles, peculiar feet, neat small comb, and that crowning beauty, a splendid crest. A model crest is the most beautiful ornament possessed by any fowl. And no object can bear an ornament so gracefully and to such advantage as the one that is already beautiful.

Yes, we are going to boom the Houdan, but not as booming is so often done, by placing fabulous valuations upon them, or by making ridiculous claims for them, but by simply holding forth their qualities of beauty and usefulness, and they will do the rest.

SCOTT A. CLARK, Sullivan, Ohio.

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## The Houdan as a Utility Fowl



The usual custom of writers on poultry when they come to tell us about their favorite breed is to first make sure that they claim everything in sight and not to allow themselves to be outdone in "claims"



by anyone or any other breed. To read their effusions is to finally come to wonder if there really are any chickens that lay less than 200 eggs a year, or grow smaller than a turkey, or less beautiful than the bird of paradise. The process usually employed is not calculated to advance the real interests of any breed or its breeders. A few amateurs may be induced to buy some eggs or stock, but since no fowl does or can fulfill all the extravagant claims made for them by these ill advised and sometimes even dishonest boomers, the result is merely that these beginners fail to realize their expectations and become discouraged knockers instead of enthusiastic breeders.

I shall confine myself in this article to a conservative statement of what can be expected of a Houdan flock by the average intelligent person, and to giving a few hints on practical matters of care and management.

Let us begin with the breeding stock. It is assumed that you have raised or purchased good, vigorous specimens. If not, then do so or get out of the Houdan alley. Mate four to eight females to a male. I would not care to mate over eight females to a vigorous male even when on free range. The breeders should not be fed a fattening ration; that is, the proportion of whole grain should not be too large. A quart of grain for 25 to 30 birds morning and evening is plenty of this form of feed. The balance of the ration should be a dry mash containing about ten per cent. of animal food of some kind. Those who feed wet mashes should be sure that at least one-third of its bulk is a grain food like alfalfa or clover meal. Dry mash should not contain more than six to eight per cent. alfalfa meal, or the birds will not eat it in sufficient quantity to maintain flesh and egg-production. I am very partial to a wet mash after the evening grain feed. This mash contains half its bulk of alfalfa meal, and is fed quite wet but not watery. Fowls should go to roost with full crops, and I prefer a full crop made up of a light feed of grain and as much wet mash as they will take to any other combination. A full feed of grain even once a day is too fattening. It is a well known fact that hens eat practically a full meal of wet mash right after a fair meal of grain, or vice versa.

Houdan eggs are so large that much better results will be obtained if they are incubated under hens. Houdan chicks will reach the weight of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{3}{4}$  pounds quicker than any other breed. Several times I have had chicks of Rocks, Wyandottes and Houdans hatched under the same hens, and brooded exactly the same, and the Houdans beat the other breeds to the  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lb. to  $1\frac{3}{4}$  lb. weight.

When chicks are weaned I like to put them on hopper feeding and give some range. The hoppers contain a dry mash mixture with four or five per cent. of animal food, and another hopper contains whole oats. With this method large framed birds will result and the too early development of sexual instincts will be avoided. Never feed grains in hoppers unless birds have some range.

Houdans will lay as many winter eggs as any breed if they are kept dry. A Houdan can stand as much cold as any of them, but wet feet will stop their laying in the winter time. Keep Houdans in on cold wet days, give them a moderate amount of exercise, avoid too large a proportion of grain, and eggs will come in plenty at all seasons of the year.

As a market fowl Houdans can well claim to be as good as the best or better. Besides reaching  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $1\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. before any other breed, they have the desirable quality of dressing with less percentage of waste than any breed. Their flesh is of the best flavor, very tender, and the fat is distributed throughout the tissue instead of forming in separate masses as is the tendency with American and Asiatic breeds.

The above is a fair statement of facts regarding the Houdan. Experienced breeders will agree substantially with the estimate and beginners may safely depend upon it as a conservative statement.

Nevada, Mo.

PROF. A. H. WEISBERG.

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## Those Babies



Some people ask me, "why do you breed Houdans?" Well, there are a good many reasons for that. They are handsome, hardy, prolific, tame, good to eat, good to sell, good to show, good to look at, good to—well, there are so many things they are good for, it is hard to tell all of them. In fact you can't tell all the good things about them, for when a Houdan man begins to talk, other breed specialists just leave the room or aisle, wherever the crowd happens to be, as they might as well expect to hatch 100 per cent. of 99 point birds as to think for a minute that they will be able to get a word in edgeways, even.

Now you breeder—what do you say, or how can you keep from saying, or find words to say what comes into your minds when you look at a bunch of those newly hatched Houdans? I never have found anything appropriate, nor even able to do them justice. O! those little beauties—with their black backs and white breasts, their little crowned heads, more or less black and white, their little feet, more toes than are found on the other varieties, their snappy actions, their aristocratic walk, and so many other attractive features—who could help but be late for meals for having watched them. And then as they begin to grow, and grow they surely do, the strong contrast between their solid black and white sections, their dainty crests coming on, adding to their already long list of attractions, their well rounded breasts and long



backs, giving them the appearance of just what they are to be, namely—winners at any game.

And then as they begin to develop in size and color—how we watch for the black feathers to break through the white, the white tips to show on the ends of the black feathers, notice the legs and feet change from the original yellow to the beautiful mottling seen on the good ones—see the bodies fill out in beautiful proportion, and their plumage put on the beautiful sheen, we forget the care and worry and trouble they have been.

All young chicks are beautiful, but when it comes to the kind that you see come from the large white egg of the Houdan—then you see the prettiest thing in the world—a Houdan chick. **Oh those babies!**

F. J. REVELEY, East Haven, Conn.

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## The “Why” of the Crest



We are all familiar with crest and beard from the utility angle. Many's the time we have put to rout our friends, the enemy (breeder of comb and wattles), by our unanswerable logic on that score. But comparatively few of us perhaps have undertaken seriously to analyze the question of why crested fowls are handsomer than those otherwise ornamented.

Right here, no doubt, we shall be “called to order” by some advocate of comb and wattles, who will demand to know by what right we assume that the crest is more comely than the caruncle. For they won't admit it. Some of them are connoisseurs with a discernment so keen as to detect grace in the tortoise and in the hippopotamus elegance. But among ourselves it is a settled principle—an axiom—and we are concerned only with the “why.”

Mother Nature, like all females, is swayed by caprice, and makes some of her creatures beautiful, and others ugly. There is the butterfly, for instance; and there is the toad. Perhaps she makes the toad hideous that we may by contrast the better appreciate the fairness of the butterfly. If all women were equally prepossessing we should in time cease to think of them as prepossessing at all, which would precipitate a peaceful, but monotonous state of affairs. And in the world of birds, Nature preserves the same rule of diversity. We pity the pelican for an ill-favored monster, that we may derive a kind of poetic rapture from contemplating the chaste lines of the swan.

Admitting, then, that Nature knows her business, let us refer the issue of the crest to her arbitrament. When she sets her hand to accomplishing something really fine in the way of birds, does she cap

the head of her masterpiece with a comb, or with a crest? We may find our answer in the graceful aigret of the heron, in the orange-and-black plume of the golden pheasant, in the peacock headdress of the king lady, in the pompadour of the European jay, in the fan-shaped crest of the hoopoe, in the thistle-down tuft of the quetzal, and in the modest coiffure of the lyre bird. Dame Nature has excellent judgment in these matters. In the decoration of her feathered creatures of jungle and bush she is no more prone to blunder than in the tinting of the rose or the painting of a sunset.

So it may be accepted as a demonstrated fact that Nature chooses the crest, and not the comb, as an expression of beauty. And now the advocate of comb and wattles, who interrupted us a moment ago, has his answer.

St. Joseph, Mo.

FRANK WICKIZER.

## The Houdan's Misfortune



The Houdan ought to be one of the most popular breeds of standard-bred fowls in America. That it is not is owing largely to the shortsighted policy of the most prominent breeders of our favorite; to the ungentlemanly and unsportsmanlike attitude to several of the occasional exhibits and heavy advertisers of Houdans. Put in plain words the claims as put forth in the advertising columns of the journals by a few of these fellows has so thoroughly disgusted the true fanciers who are giving the Houdan the treatment it deserved that they have retired from the show room, and ceased to be identified with the Houdan "crowd."

Not only this, for a number of years the Houdans shown were the short back, pinched, small kind, neither pretty nor useful.

There is but one type of Houdan that is worth while. It is the real Houdan—the one with the long back, deep body and full breast, the one that is the best table fowl in all the world and a prolific producer of eggs. At some of the leading shows last winter I found a few of these. Cocks weighed 8 to 10 pounds, hens 7 to 8 pounds, cockerels 7 to 8 pounds and pullets 6 to 7 pounds. Ah, they were the kind to make glad the heart of those who know what a Houdan really is.

Then again the over-mottled, the washed-out white Houdan is shown to a great extent. Such are without worth or beauty.

I believe that with the proper effort on the part of those who know a Houdan, our favorite can be restored to its rightful place. But we have got to get rid of a lot of worthless Houdans and a lot of worthless blow-hards before we succeed.

Iowa Falls, Iowa.

THOS. F. RIGG.



# The Houdan



## Early History and Suggestions on Breeding

The Houdan fowl, supposedly of French origin, is a very interesting and useful breed and is quite extensively bred in France and largely so in America and England. It is not a mushroom production but an old established breed, the qualities of which should make it a most dangerous rival of the most popular American breeds. Being as it is a most highly prized market fowl in France today and the most celebrated for egg production, one would naturally inquire why these conditions do not exist in our own country. The reason is quite obvious and has been heard hundreds of times by the writer at our poultry shows. The crest, without which they would not be Houdans, is the most objectionable feature to the breed in greatly mistaken opinion of the great majority of people. Why do Houdans have crests? I might also ask why do Leghorns and Minorcas have such large combs? Are these combs of any practical value? Are they not more objectionable to these breeds than are the crests to the Houdan?

The crests to the Houdan is not merely a beauty mark but a protection that makes this breed a more valuable utility fowl. Personally we think exhibitors are breeding larger crests than they should and think it is a mistake for the American standard to encourage the practice. I believe in a standard crest in size as well as color and one that is in proportion to the size of the bird. We should not lose sight of the utility quality of this valuable breed or try to compete with the Polish variety in size of crest because when we do we get farther away from the practical qualities of the famous fowl from France.

A very noticeable characteristic of the Houdan is the eye, the brightness of which indicates health and vigor. Nature gives the Houdan an eye that is always on the alert, which peeps out from between crest and beard and never a bug or worm escapes its notice. The true Houdan eye is bright red in color and quite large and full.

As to the characteristics of the Houdan, one of the most noticeable is the fifth toe, which is acquired from the Dorking. In the most careful breeding we occasionally have a four toed bird, which proves conclusively that Houdans were originally a four toed bird. We also have seen six toes on a specimen which is as much a disqualification as four toes. The fifth toe of the Houdan should be distinct from the others and curve gently.

The Houdan is a squarely built bird, long in body, full in breast, wide in back with a gradual even slope to tail, which should be carried at a somewhat less than 45 degree angle. I might go further along the line but space and time forbids.

Briefly as to the qualities of the Houdan, a most interesting phase of the subject—because it is the qualities of a breed that endears it to the heart of the fancier.

I would not breed Houdans if they did not lay large white eggs in such great numbers. Neither would I want them if I had not found them a most desirable table fowl, both as to flavor and quality of their flesh.

Hardiness, too, induces me to continue breeding them, as their eggs are highly fertile. They are quick growers and small eaters. The pullets lay early, some at five months of age, and hens lay well at five and six years of age.

They are easily confined—a four-foot fence will keep them; and last but not least, they are exceptionally good winter layers, when furnished with sunny, fresh air quarters and a proper egg making ration.

In regard to early history of the breed, much has been said that in our opinion is unauthentic, from the fact that many contradictory statements have been made. Previous to its introduction in America about forty years ago we have very little knowledge that is based on facts. Some are inclined to the belief that the Houdan is the result of a cross of the Polish and Dorking. Many would be easily led to believe this statement because we see so many Houdans that undoubtedly have Polish blood in them and most all agree that they get the fifth toe from the Dorking.

We rather favor the belief that the Houdan is one of our oldest breeds and that these Polish and Dorking characteristics are the result of an attempt to improve the breed in certain markings such as crest and comb, also to darken the color and improve the shape by the introduction of new blood of these two breeds at various times. The comb has been changed from the antler and leaf to the small V shape. The crest has been enlarged but in many cases resembles the Polish in shape and color.

One writer says that the large white patch so often seen on the back of the Houdan crest is the result of the introduction of Polish blood. While this may be so we do not believe it to be any credit to the Houdan but an absolute injury to the breed.

The English Houdan differs from the American bred bird, being lighter in color and having a leaf comb. We have photos of a pair of noted English winners that would certainly suffer in the hands of most American judges as regards to color. We submit these to the Western Poultry Journal reader for inspection and comparison with the American Houdan.



We favor personally the darker color but not so dark as the new standard calls for. The present standard certainly cannot be improved upon in regard to color. One white tipped feather to three solid black ones makes a very beautiful combination of the two colors.

We would be pleased to give some history of this notable breed that is authentic, but we believe its true history is much a matter of doubt. All we have is a few conflicting traditional tales that can hardly be depended upon as a matter of history.

Judge Thos. F. Rigg, a Houdan breeder for more than thirty years, is undoubtedly the best authority on this breed and says in the American Poultry Journal of February, 1906, in substance as follows: "Much has been written regarding the early history of the Houdan fowl that is not of value and that no man can bring forth as facts regarding its origin." He does not believe in the theory of the Houdan being the result of a cross between the Polish and the Dorking.

Really the origin of the breed matters but little when the fact is known that for more than 200 years the Houdan has been the leading utility fowl of France, taking its name from the small town of Houdan. What concerns the American people most is the present value of this breed, its history and progress in this country.

Mr. Rigg tells us that the first importation of Houdans was made in 1859 by Mr. Armstedt, of Philadelphia; also a number of importations were made in the early sixties. Among those early importers was Dr. ———, then of Iowa City, Iowa, who sold his entire stock to Dr. James Rigg, in 1872. Thus one of the leading strains of America was established and carefully bred by the doctor and his son, the present Judge Rigg, until a year or two ago. To Dr. Rigg and his son the present V shape comb must be given the credit and honor due them. He first exhibited a V shaped comb in Dubuque in 1874. Besides these two there are others who deserve much credit in making the Houdan breed what it is today, namely, Daniel Pinckney, James E. White, Mr. Butler and Mr. Aldrich.

It is much to be regretted that these famous strains are now practically extinct, so far as the above men are concerned, still they are the basis of other strains that today represent the Houdan in all its glory of excellence.

The excellent qualities of the Houdan are worthy of more attention than I can give at present. Suffice it to say that they are prolific layers of large white eggs, a most excellent table fowl, non-setters and very hardy from babyhood to maturity.

### Suggestions in Breeding.

To breed standard color and type we select very dark pullets or hens of as near standard color as possible and mate to a male bird that is strong in all sections. A well shaped male with a good comb and

strong fifth toes may be mated to females with good crests and beards, other sections being good or fairly good in both sexes. We cannot expect to find a perfect mating but must try to overcome the defects in the females by good strong points in the male.

Such defects as purply and straw color are very hard to overcome. The purple is much worse some years than others, which we believe is partly due to exposure to the sun and poor feeding, so that the growth is retarded at times.

Orleans, Ind.

DR. GEO. W. TAYLOR.

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## The Houdan



The Houdan, as I find her after several years of breeding, is hardy, quiet, lays a large, white egg, eats less than a Leghorn, and, with me, a four-foot fence is sufficient to keep her under control. I am asked so often why I prefer the Houdan, and I believe the above reasons good ones. I hatch all my eggs in incubators and the little chicks are so hardy and grow so quickly it is a real pleasure to take care of them, and right here is the secret of good birds, old or young, and care means clean and well fed, and I always put cleanliness first. At this date, April 14th, I have 600 young Houdans and three incubators running. How I love to take all doubting Thomases who ask if the Houdan is not a delicate bird out and show them! Very few indeed who go away without a setting of the good old Houdan eggs.

Missoula, Mont.

MATTIE McMULLEN.

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## Characteristics of the Houdan as a Utility Fowl



It has been taught by some poultrymen that the Houdan is only a bird of fine quality and good for no other purpose than to be looked upon as a bird of beauty, and people who have not bred this great fowl have formed the opinion that they are not a utility fowl. Now, my dear reader, you cannot find a breed that will excel them as a fowl of useful-



ness. The writer has bred several different breeds and has bred that breed that every one knows as they know the Jersey cow—the Leghorn—and as a layer the Houdan excels the Leghorn, both in the size and number of eggs.

We have weighed the Houdan eggs several different times and find they weigh 31 ounces per dozen, and we have two hens that lay an egg that weighs  $3\frac{1}{4}$  ounces. The color of the egg is pure white. They can stand almost any kind of climate and will lay in the coldest of winter. They are small eaters and stand confinement, making a good fowl for the town poultryman, and are not a small fowl by any means, standard weight being 5 to 6 pounds for females and 6 to 7 pounds for males, and they mature very quickly.

We used to think the Leghorn was the only fowl for table use, but since we have been breeding Houdans, when we want a bird to eat it is the Houdan. Their meat is tender and sweet, they have small bone, the breast being very large.

The Houdan will lay 200 eggs a year when fed the proper kind of food, and will lay 150 eggs for the farmer on a grain ration. Now, Mr. Utility Breeder, can you get a breed that will come up to that? Any one who has bred the Houdan has always found them to be a great utility fowl and the day is coming when they will be as popular in the farmer's barn as the Barred Plymouth Rock.

L. F. KIRBY.

Orleans, Ind.

---

## From Shell to Oven



Those who have had experience in raising a flock of chickens, either by a hen or by artificial incubation, know it is far easier to hatch 75 per cent. of the eggs than it is to raise that percentage of the chicks. Hereditary weakness or low vitality should be shunned by using only strong birds as breeders. If the birds used for breeders are weak, their chicks will not be worth raising.

Start in with good, strong ancestors, and feed good, sound grain, then either "Biddy" or the incubator will hatch you good, strong chicks. Let them remain under the hen, or in the incubator, for thirty hours, then be sure they don't chill in changing to brooder. If cold weather, have the brooder at 100 degrees. If too warm, the little fellows will come out, but if too cold they will huddle together, which is bad for young chicks.

After thirty-five hours, feed any of the prepared chick foods, a little at a time, five times a day for the first week, then keep a pan containing three-fourths wheat bran and one-fourth middlings by the chicks at all times, and feed four times a day, and watch the little fellows get in the pan and eat and grow. Keep clean, fresh water and fine grit in brooder, and by "Biddy" all the time.

I use both hens and hot water wigwarm brooders, and never put over 65 chicks in a brooder made for 100. Clean the brooder every four days, and I find excelsior the best thing to keep brooders clean. Cleanliness is the only way to success. Be sure to keep a sharp lookout for lice. Lice are the cause of the death of fifty per cent. of good, strong chicks.

After the chicks are four weeks old I feed wheat, buckwheat and cracked corn, and coarser grain as they grow larger. I also feed fresh fish after the chicks are ten days old, as they dearly love fish. If I could not get fish I would feed a good beef scrap. After the first ten days I also feed scraped sugar mangel beets once a day for green food. I scarcely ever see a chick with diarrhoea by keeping things clean. A Houdan should be ready for the oven in twelve weeks from the shell, and is then the finest of all fowl.

CAPTAIN C. E. ARNOLD.

Babylon, L. I., N. Y.

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## The Merits of the Houdans



"Why do you breed Houdans?" is often asked of me. I reply I say: "Because I consider the Houdan the most profitable of all domestic fowls. The proofs of such belief are easily rendered.

Houdans are very hardy, showing wonderful vigor and vitality. This is true in both chicks and grown birds. They are as easily kept in small yards as on free range. They reach broiler stage at a very early age. There is more meat on a Houdan than on any other breed of equal weight. Sickness is seldom known and if found is easily eliminated. They produce large, white eggs, in winter as well as summer. Fertility always runs high. They are small eaters, good foragers, non-setters and very tame. Combs to freeze are a minus quantity. The beautiful is fully exemplified in this excellent fowl. They are workers, they are always clean, they have style and they nearly always breed true.

F. J. HOLT.

Janesville, Wis.



# The Best Breed



I should like to say a few words for the Houdans. I have been breeding them for four years and found them a great success. I find they are extra good layers. It doesn't matter how cold the weather may be, it doesn't check their laying. They lay for 10 or 11 months out of 12. They are a bird that attracts a great deal of attention in the show room. I should like to see poultrymen take hold of them more in the future than what they have in the past. This is an old breed for which I find a great demand.

H. W. PRESTON.

Pride's Crossing, Mass.

---

## Some "Do Nots"



Do not set eggs after a journey for 24 hours, or even longer is better, because the germ is misplaced by the shaking and requires a rest to get back in place.

Do not over-feed Houdans—they get fat very quickly.

Eggs from very fat hens are often infertile.

Do not expect a first prize Houdan to be sold for two dollars.

Do not blame the seller of eggs when the express company breaks half of the number.

Do not let the express man leave until you have unpacked eggs, for then you can make the express company pay.

E. F. REID.

San Jose, Cal.



Furnished by courtesy of J. Emile Smith,  
Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pa.

#### HOUDANS MAKE EXCELLENT PETS



Anyone in the West wishing to invest in Houdan eggs or stock, will do well to get my prices, and if possible inspect my breeding pens before sending further.

*Day Old Chicks a  
Specialty*

A postal will get my mating list by return mail.

All correspondence answered promptly, and satisfaction guaranteed.

**Mountain Home Poultry Farm**

R. F. D. No. 1

MISSOULA, MONT.

MRS. MATTIE MULLEN

*Owner and Manager*

# L. FRANKFURTH

---

BREEDER OF  
HIGH-GRADE  
HOUDANS



Eggs and Stock at Reasonable Prices

---

NASHOTAH

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WISCONSIN



## Don't Mistake the Hearse for the Band Wagon!

Popular taste in poultry changes, like the styles in women's hats. When a garment gets too common, the elite turn to later modes, and the tide sets away from the old. In selecting your breed of poultry, choose one that's "coming in," not one that's "going out."

# HARDY HOUDANS

*THE KIND WICKIZER BREEDS!*

That's a phrase to conjure with. They are large, rugged, shapely and handsome, and they conform strictly to Standard. Blue ribbons and the silver cup of the American Houdan Club at Kansas City, 1910.

## THE HILLCREST ROOKERIES

FRANK WICKIZER, Manager

ST. JOSEPH, MO.

## HOUDANS

My birds won at Baltimore, 1910---the Club ribbon on shape and color on hens; also silver cup for best display.

Eggs and stock for sale.

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WAVERLY  
BALTIMORE, MD.

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## LAUREL Poultry Yards

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Breed

High-Grade  
HOUDANS  
Exclusively

**D. P. PRICE**

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# *High-Class Houdans*



## First Prize Cockerel

NORRISTOWN, PA.

BRED BY

**J. EMLÉN SMITH**

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*Stock and Eggs For Sale in Season*



A Boston Winner, weight 9 lbs.

## WHO SHALL TALK?

*The Man or the Bird*

It is my aim to let my Houdans speak for themselves, but I can quote you the prices.

All inquiries cheerfully answered.

### JOHN BABER

Box 185

LAWSON, MO.



# Reid's "Cracker Jack" Strain Houdans

For Best Display Won Silver Cups  
at

ALASKA YUKON PACIFIC EXPOSITION

Seattle, 1909; San Jose, 1909; San Jose Silver  
Trophy, 1908; Alameda, 1907; Petaluma, 1907

Eggs \$5.00 per 13      -      -      \$3.50 per 13  
Stock for Sale

MRS. EMMA F. REID

Box 54

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San Jose, Cal.

## Handsome Houdans

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BREED  
THE  
CHOICEST  
ONLY

D. S. STRONG

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**High-Grade**  
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*Breeder of High Quality Line Bred*

## Houdans and Buckeyes

Winners of firsts and other premiums at Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, Cincinnati, Sedalia

*Stock, Eggs and Baby Chicks in Season*

I have a large, modern plant and can furnish eggs by hundreds or more from over thirty pens---mated scientifically to produce winners that will also make good at the egg basket.

Hatch and brood your Houdans under Buckeyes, the reddest, the largest, and the best red fowl. You will like them.

Satisfaction guaranteed on every transaction.

## A. H. WEISBERG

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*Missouri Vice President American Houdan Club*

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*Member Missouri State Poultry Association*



"PADEREWSKI," Weight 9 Pounds

*The Houdan of yesterday is  
not the Houdan of today.*

My birds fill the requirements of the new standard and a setting of eggs or a good bird from my flock will put your breeding ahead a great many years.

My importation this year will be from the best breeders of England and France.

**Eggs \$3.00, \$5.00 and \$10.00 per setting.**

A limited number of high-class birds for sale.

**JOHN T. HEIZER**

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All Stock of the Best Quality



My HOUDANS have won at such Shows as MADISON  
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and BROCKTON



They are carefully mated for the best results, and I  
aim for

## QUALITY, not QUANTITY



I guarantee full satisfaction in every deal, and all cor-  
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better write now

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Stock and eggs from  
birds that have won  
many prizes.

They are a heavy  
laying strain of birds.

Eggs in season \$2.50  
per Fifteen. A few  
choice Cockerels for  
sale cheap.

**H. W. PRESTON**

Pride's Crossing,  
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# Houdans of Quality

**W**E have shipped birds to all parts of the world---including every State in the U. S. and Canada and many States in Mexico; also in Honolulu.

Houdans of Quality go to all  
parts of the world



Also winners in America's leading shows, and winners in the hands of customers at hundreds of State and local shows.

I can furnish winners in any competition. Send me 10c for my new Houdan book, ready January, 1911. Write me at once.

**DR. G. W. TAYLOR**  
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**CLARK'S HOUDANS** have proven their superiority by continually winning at such shows as Cleveland, Pittsburg, Chicago, Columbus, Toledo and many others.

They have maintained their high position the past show season. Their winnings at Cleveland, including the Calvary Morris challenge cup for the best display of the breed, which they won for the second and final time.

I offer eggs from very carefully selected matings, and birds of highest type.

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Price reasonable.

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Why not start with my Bred-to-Lay, Bred-to-Win Strain. Look up my record at South Side Show, Riverhead, Mineola, Richmond Hill, Brooklyn and Madison Square Garden and see the Blues and Cups won.

EGGS FOR HATCHING.

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*Babylon, L. I., N. Y.*

*"not All the good ones,  
but all GOOD ones"*

By a continued practice of culling very rigidly, and breeding from the fewer number of my very best specimens, I have succeeded in producing a strain of heavy laying, persistent winning

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that have won every "Best Display" where they have been exhibited.

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### **Beadle's Houdans**

Winners at South Bend, Ind.; Kalamazoo, Marcellus and Vicksburg, Mich.

Silver cup for best display in French class at South Bend; also special ribbon and A. P. A. diploma for best cockerel.

Eggs and stock in season.

Write your wants. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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The most satisfactory band for marking poultry.  
Made of aluminum. Numbered to suit purchaser.

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## YEAR BOOK 1912

From the Personal  
Reference Library of  
PAUL IVES





## TO THE MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN HOUDAN CLUB, GREETING:



In presenting this Year Book to the members of the American Houdan Club it is carrying out the intentions of the officers of last year, who promised the members an annual catalogue. The membership has now passed the two hundred mark, and it does seem reasonable to hope that this Year Book may be issued annually, and it is the earnest wish of the present Secretary that hereafter it may be issued on March 1st of each year. This would make a very valuable advertising medium for Houdan fanciers.

The present Secretary has made a special effort to get this book out early. Not having received the books and papers from the former Secretary until January 15th, the members can realize that it has involved considerable correspondence, proof reading, etc., to get it out at this date.

In behalf of the American Houdan Club, I take this opportunity of thanking all those who have contributed to make this Year Book interesting; also the advertisers who have so generously taken space, and if the members of the Club will not only patronize the advertisers, but in doing so mention that they saw their advertisement in the Year Book, it will mean much for increased size of the book for coming years, as the advertisers will then realize how substantial a medium it is for them. On December 11, 1911 the membership of the Club was 170. The total number at the time of this book going to press is 203, showing a gain of 33 members since December 11, 1911. If this gain can be maintained during the balance of the year we should reach or pass the 400 mark. If the State Vice Presidents will co-operate with the officers and make an effort to increase the membership in their States, it will not only be a great benefit to the Club, but in many cases enable the Club to offer a silver cup in States where there are ten members. Every cup offered means advertisement and interest shown for the breed, but members should not expect the Vice Presidents and officers to do all the work. Undoubtedly every member has a friend

in the Houdan fancy, and a word from them will mean much toward obtaining their application for membership.

The Secretary will be glad to furnish at any time, blank application cards to any member making inquiry for the same and will furnish copy of this Year Book to any person who they think may be inclined to join the Club.

The show season is a long way off, but now is the time to plan for making an exhibit at your local or district show. Nothing does the breed so much good as a large exhibit in the Houdan class. Not only make an exhibit, but have some literature explaining the good points of the breed, and that you are prepared to furnish eggs or stock of this "White-Egg-Bred-to-Lay-Sure-to-Pay" breed.

The Secretary desires to state that he is at all times willing to give any information to any member regarding anything that may be of interest to him in Houdan matters. Do not hesitate to write him if you are in doubt.

Trusting that this Year Book may prove, not only useful but interesting to you, and that it may increase your interest in the good old Houdan, We are,

Yours fraternally,  
THE AMERICAN HOUDAN CLUB,  
J. A. Underwood, Secretary.



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1912.

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## Club Emblem

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Many members have made inquiry regarding an emblem for use of club members, and it seems desirable that the club should have an appropriate design, which can be used on stationery and advertising matter.

If a sufficient number will write the Secretary indicating an idea as to what design would be best, and if the number of replies received warrant it, the Secretary will have a drawing submitted to the officers for their approval. The cost will be very moderate if 100 members will each order one electrotype.

# List of Members

---

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| Schwingel, Wm. M.....    | Dansville                       |
| Smith, Sinclair.....     | 23 Jacob St., New York          |
| Sweetser, Miss E. L..... | Schenectady                     |
| Thayer, Wm. J.....       | Penn Yan                        |
| Tracy, Miss Lucy E.....  | Penn Yan                        |
| Urban, Jr., Geo.....     | Pine Ridge, Buffalo             |
| Underwood, J. A.....     | Penn Yan                        |
| Waldaman, W. C.....      | 489 Fifth Ave., New York        |

|                             |              |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Wheat, Parter A.....        | Treadwell    |
| Wheat, R. C.....            | Delhi        |
| Williams, Mrs. Frank M..... | Peekskill    |
| Wood, A. H.....             | Painted Post |

## OHIO.

|                                |                                 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Barber, P. D.....              | Amherst                         |
| Clark, Scott A.....            | Sullivan                        |
| Gilbert, P. W.....             | Lakewood                        |
| Heizer, John T.....            | 379 E. Northwood Ave., Columbus |
| Metzler, John L.....           | Findlay                         |
| Moore, Miss Theta Blanche..... | E. Fultonham                    |
| Sherman, Mrs. C.....           | Arcadia                         |
| Veldhuis, Dr. G. H.....        | Cleveland                       |

## OKLAHOMA.

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Churchill, A. L..... | Vinita |
|----------------------|--------|

## OREGON.

|                       |                                 |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Fleming, Wm. ....     | Salem                           |
| Rogers, Norman L..... | 1530 E. Tenth St., Portland     |
| Miles, Herbert.....   | Route 2, Gilbert Station, Lents |

## PENNSYLVANIA.

|                                 |                                                |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Ballard, Ellis Ames.....        | 1242 Land Title Bldg., Broad St., Philadelphia |
| Barr & Skottowe.....            | Narvon                                         |
| Buss, Clarence E.....           | Allentown                                      |
| Canterbury, J. H.....           | 2934 Frink St., Scranton                       |
| Degelman, Wm. C.....            | 435 Sixth Ave., Pittsburg                      |
| Davis, Wm. W.....               | 210 Harker St., Pittsburg                      |
| Dunne, M. D., H. E.....         | Ridgway                                        |
| Dunne, M. D., Anna Bartsch..... | Ridgway                                        |
| Fry, I. Oliver.....             | Bainbridge                                     |
| Fullmer, Forest A.....          | Easton                                         |
| Gangler, Wm. L.....             | Schwenkville                                   |
| Guignet, Geo. ....              | Carlisle                                       |
| Hayes, C. M.....                | Titusville                                     |
| Herring, C. M. P.....           | Villa Nova                                     |
| Hilliard, S. C.....             | New Bethlehem                                  |
| Hood, W. L.....                 | So. Williamsport                               |
| Leonard, E. J.....              | Elkland                                        |
| Mosebach, F. A.....             | Bethlehem                                      |
| Miller, Harry D.....            | Allentown                                      |
| Paris, C. J.....                | Grays Run                                      |



|                             |                              |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Pursell, Dr. J. P.....      | Sellinsville                 |
| Roberts, Geo. K.....        | Cannonsburg                  |
| Smith, J. Emlen .....       | Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia  |
| Springman, G. Harvey.....   | Williamsport                 |
| Stowman, Walter.....        | Flourtown                    |
| Schneeler & Bellheimer..... | Bethlehem                    |
| Shontz, Edgar .....         | Phillipsburg                 |
| Smith, Irvin H.....         | Sewickley                    |
| Soapstone Farm .....        | Haverfood                    |
| Stitsell, D. R.....         | 921 Kirkbride St., Pittsburg |
| Wallace, David .....        | Sewickley                    |
| Widener, Geo. D.....        | Elkins Park                  |
| Wilkinson, Harry .....      | Mifflinburg                  |
| Wy-Orp Poultry Farm.....    | Allentown                    |
| Zacharias, J. W.....        | Verona                       |

#### RHODE ISLAND.

|                          |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Bennett, C. Clinton..... | So. Auburn |
|--------------------------|------------|

#### TEXAS.

|                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Dean, Chet. L.....    | 215 Mills St., El Paso |
| Shobe, Mrs. W. H..... | 3630 Aladaid, El Paso  |

#### TENNESSEE.

|                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| De Bremond, Ch.,..... | 1749 Evelyn Ave., Memphis |
| Leeper, Dr. J. F..... | Lenoir City               |

#### WASHINGTON.

|                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Parr, H. E.....       | Dayton              |
| McMurray, J. L.....   | Court House, Tacoma |
| Roach, Laurence ..... | Everett             |
| Zenier, Julian E..... | Asotin              |

#### VIRGINIA.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Bischoff, Paul C..... | Cherrydale |
|-----------------------|------------|

#### WEST VIRGINIA.

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| McLanahan, Ward ..... | Martinsburg |
| Woodford, A. D.....   | Berryburg   |

#### WISCONSIN.

|                        |                             |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Arnsmier, Fred .....   | Brohead                     |
| Brown, Earl F.....     | Janesville                  |
| Dunbar, Miss Lula..... | Elkhorn                     |
| Frankfurth, L. F.....  | 119 W. Water St., Milwaukee |
| Holt, F. J.....        | Janesville                  |
| Riker, Chas. ....      | Janesville                  |
| Myer, John C.....      | Oconto Falls                |

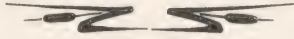
#### WYOMING.

|                  |         |
|------------------|---------|
| Svenson, H. .... | Larimie |
|------------------|---------|

# CONSTITUTION

## OF

### The American Houdan Club



1. This Club will be called the "American Houdan Club."

2. The object of the Club shall be to promote and increase the breeding and popularity of the Houdan among the great body of fanciers, utility poultrymen and those keeping fowls to furnish eggs and meat for the family use. To stand unitedly for the standard as officially declared and to urge all breeders to conform to it.

3. The officers of the Club shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, a State Vice-President from each State and Province represented, and an Executive Committee of not less than three members. All officers except State Vice-Presidents shall be elected by all members voting by mail to the Secretary, who shall open and count the ballots at the annual meeting. The State Vice-Presidents shall be elected by all members of the Club in their respective States, voting in the same manner. The officers shall serve from the end of one regular annual meeting to the end of the next regular annual meeting. No one can hold two or more offices at the same time.

4. There shall be a regular annual meeting; the time and place for holding same shall be determined by the Club members voting by mail to the Secretary-Treasurer. Three members shall constitute a quorum. A special meeting can be called by the President or two members of the Executive Committee.

The order of business at all meetings of the Club to be:

1. Roll call.
2. Reading of minutes of previous meeting.
3. Reading of full report of Secretary-Treasurer.
4. Reading of communications.
5. Unfinished business.
6. New business.
7. Reading of list of members gained and lost.
8. Counting of ballots and announcement of election of new officers.
9. Discussion of plans for increasing membership of Club, and general exchange of ideas.
10. Adjournment.

5. The President is the Chief Executive Officer, and shall preside at all meetings and appoint all special committees. He shall recommend policy and action to the Executive Committee, authorize the Secretary-Treasurer to transact such business as has been decided on, and to see that the policy and business of the Club is carried out with energy and dispatch.

The Vice-President shall be chairman of the Executive Committee and in case of absence of the President, he is to act as President. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a record of all business of the Club, attend promptly to all correspondence, receive all moneys and disburse same when authorized by voucher signed by the President, keep members notified of date and place of meetings, receive and record ballots and keep members informed of all important matters relating to the Club. At each annual meeting he shall make a full written report of moneys received and disbursed, members added or lost and any other important matters of interest to the Club.

The Executive Committee should outline the work of the Club, receive and take action on the recommendations of the President and notify him of their decisions. The State Vice-Presidents shall look after the interests of the Club and the Houdan in their respective States, solicit new members, make suggestions in regard to offering of Cups, Ribbons, or Cash Prizes. They should report to the President and preside at meetings when the President and Vice-President are both absent. The members who are not officers shall also do all in their power to advance the interests of the Club and the Houdan. They should support the Club financially and morally, ask every Houdan breeder known to them, and their customers to join the Club, and to so conduct their poultry business that the public may learn to know that when they deal with a member of the American Houdan Club they are dealing with a reliable poultryman. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the officers of the Club it shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

6. Application for membership must be made to the Secretary-Treasurer and must be accompanied by one dollar, which will include membership fee and first year's dues. No person shall be enrolled as a member until after such fee and dues have been paid. Annual dues after first year shall be one dollar. Upon payment of \$10.00 a life membership card will be issued entitling the holder to all the benefits of the Club without further payment of dues. All past holders of life memberships are hereby established in their standing as life members.

All dues must be paid by November 1st. The Secretary-Treasurer shall notify all members in arrears of dues, and if same are not paid by December 1st, he or they shall be dropped from the Club.

Any member or officer of the Club who, after complaint, is found guilty of conduct unbecoming a gentleman, a poultryman and a Club member, shall be expelled by a two-thirds vote of the officers, and



notice of action may be sent to leading Poultry Journals. Resignations may be made by giving written notice to the Secretary-Treasurer. No resignation can be accepted if the member is in arrear of dues, or if there be any charges pending against him.

7. All money left after running expenses are paid shall be expended as follows:

|                                                      |     |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| For Cups, Ribbons or Cash Prizes at Poultry Shows... | 80% |
| For Cash Reserve.....                                | 20% |

All prizes offered by the Club shall be open for competition only to birds owned and exhibited by Club members. Prizes shall be offered at such shows as in the opinion of the Executive Committee, acting with advice of State Vice-Presidents, seems most advisable. Prizes shall be apportioned in different States and Sections in proportion to the number of Club members therein as nearly as can be determined.

8. The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all members who respond to the call for vote either by mail or in person.

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## Club Specials

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In every State or Province having ten or more members, the Club will offer a handsome Silver Cup for the best display of Houdans shown by a member of the Club residing in that State or Province, and the member winning the most points on Houdans, regardless of the number of entries shall be declared the winner. Cups may also be offered at such Shows as the Executive Committee may deem advisable.

And a Cup shall be offered at the Show where the Club holds its Annual Meeting, which Cup shall be open to competition of all the members of the Club.

In all contests for Cups offered by the Club for the best display, the following Scale of Points shall decide the winner:

Single birds—First prize, 10 points; second prize, 8 points; third prize, 6 points; fourth prize, 4 points; fifth prize, 2 points. Pens—First prize, 15 points; second prize, 12 points; third prize, 9 points; fourth prize, 6 points; fifth prize, 3 points.

State Vice-Presidents should make special efforts to secure enough members in their States to entitle them to a State Cup.

Special Ribbons will be offered by the Club at such Shows as the Executive Committee, acting with the advice of the State Vice-Presidents, shall deem advisable.

# American Houdan Club

## SECRETARY'S REPORT, DEC. 14, 1911

|                                                     |     |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
| Membership, January 12th, 1911.....                 | 126 |     |
| Members admitted during year.....                   | 78  |     |
|                                                     |     | 204 |
| Resigned and suspended for non-payment of dues..... | 33  |     |
| Died .....                                          | 1   |     |
|                                                     |     | 34  |
| Present Membership .....                            |     | 170 |

## TREASURER'S REPORT, DEC. 14, 1911

Dr.

|                                              |         |          |
|----------------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| To cash from 1910.....                       | \$37 52 |          |
| To cash received for 1910 catalogue.....     | 9 20    |          |
| To cash received for 1912 catalogue.....     | 3 00    |          |
| To cash returned from Boston Show, 1911..... | 2 00    |          |
| To cash received for Special for Boston..... | 5 00    |          |
| To cash received for membership dues.....    | 78 00   |          |
| To cash received for membership fees.....    | 57 00   |          |
|                                              |         | \$191 72 |

Cr.

|                                                        |         |          |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| By paid postage .....                                  | \$30 74 |          |
| By paid expressage .....                               | 6 20    |          |
| By paid ribbons .....                                  | 8 60    |          |
| By paid cups .....                                     | 55 00   |          |
| By paid stationery and printing.....                   | 38 01   |          |
| By paid membership fee in American Poultry Association | 10 00   |          |
| December 14th, by cash on hand.....                    | 43 17   |          |
|                                                        |         | \$191 72 |

# The Exhibition Houdan

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The best thing about the Houdan is, that when you describe the most perfect exhibition type, you have given a detailed description of a bird that is conceded to be an ideal roaster, one that has a form indicating strength, therefore vitality. And also it is the form you will note when the description is completed, that could not be improved upon were you trying to describe the ideal egg shape.

I would like to begin right here in describing the Exhibition Houdan, and make up an entire paragraph by repeating the one word type. Type is what makes a specimen a Houdan; not the fact that it had a Houdan male and female for its father and mother. This fact applies to all breeds, but to no breed more, and to few as much as to ours. Type means a distinguishing mark or characteristic in which the breed differs from all others. Therefore in a typical Houdan we have a combination of shapes in the various sections that constitutes the proper type.

The Exhibition Houdan must possess a good length of body combined with breadth of back and breast, with a certain flatness of back, which combination gives it a sturdy appearance, and a weight that invariably surprises you. It should have a neck that is not too long, a head rather broad with beak strong and well curved. A Houdan with a narrow head and a "crow beak" is n. g. Supplement this head with a neat small comb, a crest round, compact and smooth, just as large as it can be and not obstruct the sight to a degree of inconvenience, then hang on a nice large muff and bears for ballast, and you have a beautiful and perfectly balanced head. A breast that is full and round is the proper thing, and a good long keel is required to finish out an otherwise perfect body. We like to have legs stand well apart and not too long, though they should not be extremely short. Shortening the legs to the Dorking pattern detracts from the beauty of a Houdan. In the female the tail should be folded, and in the male well spread with long sickles and abundant coverts. Also he should be well equipped in saddle and hackle. These birds with feet not too small, and a fifth toe that is independent of the fourth, would surely look good to any judge, if the color was right. The dark birds look best, and the dark effect should be secured partly by breeding for small mottles. If these are clear white, and evenly distributed over a ground of greenish black reasonably free from purple and bronze bars, and the tail and flight feathers have little white, the color of the plumage is good. Breeding for dark plumage, however, is causing trouble with shanks and feet. Avoid black legs. Flesh colored shanks and feet slightly mottled with slate or black complete the color scheme.



Of course health, cleanliness and condition are the rights of every fowl, and upon them hangs the reputation of every exhibitor. As charity covereth a multitude of sins so dirt covers a multitude of virtues.

Herein described we have a bird of real worth, of honest value, and if shown by an honest owner, an Exhibition Houdan of which we need not be ashamed.

Sullivan, Ohio.

SCOTT A. CLARK.

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## Give the Beginner a "Square Deal"

The object of the American Houdan Club is "to promote, and increase the breeding and popularity of the Houdans among the great body of fanciers, utility poultrymen, and those keeping fowls to furnish eggs and meat for the family use, etc."

To increase the breeding and popularity of our breed, or of any other, we must depend in a large measure on what may be called the "Beginner." Not necessarily the man who has never bred thorough-bred poultry, but in many cases the man who has tried other breeds, for some reason found them unsatisfactory, and is taking up the breeding of the Houdan with the hope that they are the fowl he has been long looking for. This man looks up the advertising pages of the poultry papers. Selects the breeder whom he thinks has stock to suit him, writes to him for mating list, prices, and so forth, sends for eggs or stock as the case may be. In due time the stock arrives, or the eggs hatch, and the chicks grow to maturity. Then if the results are satisfactory the beginner becomes a friend of the Houdan, looks for still better stock, takes up the breed and pushes it.

On the other hand if the results are unsatisfactory, he drops the breed, has no use for it, and depending on how badly he has been "stung" he condemns the Houdan, and Houdan breeders, as good things to keep away from, and often widely advertises it as his opinion that the Houdan is a fowl of no account, and Houdan breeders mainly frauds.

If we wish to attain our object, and make the Club a success, we as members must take care that we do not intentionally mislead the beginner. That we do not make claims for the breed that the birds cannot back up. And that we give him full value for whatever money he may send us.

During my term of office as Secretary of the Club, I had a great many letters from beginners in the Houdan fancy, and was in many

cases able to look at the matter from the beginner's point of view. And I really believe that the success or failure of the Club in the end, depends on the way in which our members deal with the beginners in the Houdan fancy, and their customers generally.

I will therefore draw attention to some things which the breeder who advertises and sells eggs and stock, does, or rather is apt to do at times for the sake of making more sales, and getting higher prices. Things, which instead of making the beginner a firm friend of, and a "booster" for, the particular breed dealt in, makes him an enemy of it, and in many cases one who is ready to "knock" that breed whenever he has the chance. I do not mean to imply that Houdan breeders are more inclined than are the breeders of other varieties to these unworthy practices, but we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that the Houdan fancy has suffered greatly in the past from the practices of a few unscrupulous breeders and dealers, who have deceived and swindled people on every hand. We as members of the American Houdan Club should take particular pains to see that we do nothing in our business as breeders and advertisers, that will give anyone a chance to class us in the least degree, with these frauds and swindlers.

First. I strongly believe, that if we have a good stock, we should let the people know it, and charge a good fair price for what we sell, for a man is entitled to be paid at a fair rate for the time, experience, and skill that he has expended in building up his strain, or stock of birds. If we see some Houdan breeders claiming that their flock lays well up to 300 eggs per hen, per year, do not let us follow suit, and claim well up to the same record when our birds are only ordinary layers.

We can make these inflated claims. People will be found who will believe them, and send us long prices for eggs from such stock, but when the pullets hatched from these eggs mature, and along late in the spring commence laying, and then their eggs are few and far between, the buyer puts us down as frauds, and classes the Houdan as a fake, and a no-good breed as egg producers, then drops the breed entirely. Thus if we look at the matter even from the dollars and cents standpoint altogether, these inflated claims do not pay. To make a success in the Poultry business, and to make money at it, we must have satisfied customers, people who will come back, again and again, for eggs and stock.

Again. If we have won more or less prizes at some of the smaller Poultry Shows, let people know it. But do not claim that you can supply birds that will win anywhere in the country, and ask from ten to twenty dollars per setting for eggs. Some people will believe your claims, pay the prices you ask, but when the birds hatched grow up, and prove mainly culls, the beginner uses the axe, makes soup of the birds, and again the Houdan has another setback.

If you win at the smaller shows make your price accordingly, if your birds are really as good as you claim, send them the next year to some of the larger, first class shows, if they make good there against the competition usually met with at such shows, then you are fully justified in marking up your prices, and advertising the fact that you have the "quality." You are able to "make good," your customer will be satisfied with the stock, or eggs he buys from you, and you will have made a friend for the breed, increased their popularity, and so have helped yourself, and your fellow breeders of the Houdan.

But right here another temptation comes up. Say you have a few good birds, and only a few. Have exhibited them at a First Class Show, have won in strong competition. Don't go out into the market and buy all the Houdans you can scrape together, cheap birds, culls, and stuff only fit for the butcher's block, mate them up, and on the strength of the winning you have made with your few good birds, advertise and sell eggs from these culls. Sad to say this is done, and done with many breeds, not with the Houdan only. But even from the money standpoint this does not pay, and it discourages the beginner, and he drops out.

Then, don't buy a winning bird, and on the strength of what this bird has won while in the hands of another breeder, boost up the price of your eggs for setting, unless you have good stock with that bird. Remember that one bird does not make a whole flock of prize winners.

A good way to do is to put yourself in the buyer's place. Put your price at about what you would like to pay if you were buying. Be fair, do not charge \$10.00 per setting for eggs from a pen headed by a cockerel for which you paid from three to five dollars. I know of a case of this kind. A certain breeder wrote me in regard to buying a cockerel. He wanted a pretty good bird, in fact an extra good bird. One that had to be first class in every section, as he not only wanted him to head one of his best breeding pens, but he wanted a bird that he could show and win with, at a leading show. But he said that he could not afford to pay more than five dollars for the bird, and he thought that he should get a good bird for that amount.

He did not get the bird from me, as I wrote and told him that no breeder could afford to sell such a bird as he wanted for \$5.00. Within a short time this same breeder came out with a finely got up catalog, or mating list, charging five and ten dollars per setting for eggs.

This breeder was not willing to place himself in the buyer's place. He wanted to buy a twenty-five dollar bird for five dollars, yet wanted the buyer to pay him as high as ten dollars per setting for eggs. He said in his letters that he ought to get a first class cockerel for \$5.00, one fit to show and win with, one fit to head a good breeding pen.

On the strength of some winnings at one or two third or fourth rate shows, he mated up his birds, described them so that the beginner would almost take them to be world beaters, and asked such a high



price for eggs. Such a breeder does not "increase the breeding and popularity of the Houdan." Far from it.

I admit that there are always going to be some differences of opinion in regard to the value of a bird, one man's idea of value may differ greatly from another man's, but I contend that if the seller does not misrepresent his stock, and is willing to give the beginner, or buyer, a "square deal" these differences can easily be adjusted. Treat the buyer as you yourself would want to be treated if in his place, give him what you consider honest value for his money, and you will have little trouble.

The "square deal" pays, and pays in dollars and cents. You may sell a worthless bird to a beginner at a high price, he may not know at first that the bird is worthless, but he soon learns, and the next time he wants stock he goes past you.

Give him any kind of fair value for his money, and the chances are that he will come back again, and you can sell him more stock.

In getting out our mating lists, or in our advertising, we should be very careful, and not misrepresent our stock. Avoid exaggerations. Do not claim an egg yield of two to three hundred per bird per year for your Houdans when they are laying from a hundred to a hundred and fifty. It hurts your trade. It hurts the Houdan fancy, and it hurts the poultry fancy in general. It is all right to display your wares to the best advantage, let people know all the good points of your stock, tell them of their winnings, and so on, but be honest about it, it pays in the end, it makes more money for you in the long run, and it makes friends for the breed.

The American Houdan Club stands firmly for a "square deal" for all, for buyer and for seller, for Club member and for outsider, and the officers of the Club will continue to exert all their influence to exclude from our list of members all breeders whose methods are questionable.

They stand ready to listen to any complaints as to any wrong dealings of its members, and the complaints of the beginner, the man outside the Club will receive just as careful attention as if made by our own members.

We who are officers of the Club fully recognize that the Club can only be a success, and that the Houdan can only be pushed well up in front where it belongs, by clean honest methods, and we are determined that as far as we are able, we will see that the Club stands for the "square deal," for good, clean, honest methods in the Houdan fancy.

West Pembroke, Me.

JAS. ABERNETHY.

# Why the Houdan?

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About the Houdan much can be written in their favor, being a breed that is fast coming to the front and should be one of the most popular breeds of standard-bred fowls in America. They have long been popular in France because of their healthy, robust and excellent laying and table qualities.

Some poultry men have said that the Houdan is a bird of fine qualities and good for no other purpose than to look upon as a bird of beauty and that they are not a utility fowl, but such is not the case; one cannot find a breed that will excell them as a fowl of usefulness. I believe the Houdan will stand as much rough treatment as any fowl in existence, yet they fully appreciate good care and attention, fresh air and sunshine are necessary for successful Houdan raising.

They have practically no combs, are very heavily feathered, thus by nature are well protected from severe winter weather. There has been a great many objections to their extremely large crests which in a well bred Houdan gives style and beauty to the whole bird, besides crest and beard protect them from the cold and drafts which so many coops contain.

For the farmer and city lot poultryman and fancier they are an ideal fowl bearing confinement well and are light feeders. When selecting a breed many things are to be taken into consideration, the most important is the cost of feeding. After a careful study of the different breeds I have raised, I find the Houdan will consume the least feed of any breed and are by far the best all around fowl I have ever produced. I also find they are particularly adapted to the person who can only raise a few fowls, having limited room to keep them in as well as the farmer who can give them range.

Surely the qualities of the Houdan are enough to entitle them to better recognition. It is up to the Club members to boost this grand old bird that she may perch on the top roost of popularity with the many other popular breeds of today.

South Williamsport, Pa.

W. L. HOOD.

# Houdans in the West

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A careful survey of the West shows that the Houdan is coming to the front faster than even its most loyal friends thought possible. Everywhere the interest in this breed is so strong that those who have this variety find it difficult to raise enough to fill the demand. In egg season they have to turn away many orders that they cannot possibly fill. Why is this condition true? Are there a few large breeders who are pushing the variety with full page advertisements? Of this we can all answer in the negative. Is it because this breed is new and therefore many want to experiment with it? Neither of these is the true reason.

This fowl is the combination of all that is good in all varieties. Did you ask if they are good layers? They are as good as any for an all year egg producer, but are very strong in this line, when those short, but zero days are with us. As combs and wattles are almost a minus quantity, freezing weather has no affect upon them. Meat? Kill one and see how often you will wish that you could get another mouth full of the same kind of good, juicy meat. They are large enough in size and carry more breast meat than any other variety of fowl. Then they do not set and they do not eat a great deal of feed, compared with some of the heavy breeds. These are a few of the reasons why the ever alert, progressive, Westerner has taken up the Houdan for his fowl.

The West does furnish a great field for this breed and in looking over the breeders who are making the raising of poultry an exclusive business, we find that those breeding Houdans exclusively are in the West. The two I refer to are Dr. Taylor and Holt Brown Co. Both state that they cannot keep up with the orders for stock and eggs and that there is room for many more who will take up this breed and give the people honest value for their money. Of course, the Westerner demands true value and so those who have given it can always depend upon receiving return orders from his first customers, who will come back to him year after year.

That this fowl is being bred for the large shows as well as for the utility, in the West, can easily be proven, by the large entries at the leading Western exhibits this past season. Chicago had a large entry and at Nashville, Tenn., there were 125 birds in the class. Janesville, Wis., had 55 Houdans in its class in the 1911 show and other large shows were filled with good birds of this variety. These are Western places only and I do not pretend to speak of the Eastern exhibits. All the birds that were shown were of exceptionally fine type and color, which proves that the quality in the West is keeping up with the quantity.

Manager Holt Brown Co., Janesville, Wis.

F. J. HOLT.



# The Houdan in California

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The Houdan in California enjoys the unusually bright sunshine, which here in Santa Clara County is rarely too hot and seldom during the day, too cold. She does well here. As for those bright, sweet, little balls of fluff, always ready to be hatched, it was only yesterday afternoon when I went to turn the eggs in the incubator, I heard their little voices trying to tell me they were ready to peep out, and not one egg was pipped. This morning when I reached the incubator I had a number of "fluffs" with big black eyes, looking at me—the first wee ones of 1912—although I have over 160 of two and three months old, from which I shall pick out my cockerels and pullets for the State Fair next August.

Do I like the Houdans? More than ever. I like them for their ways, for their large, white eggs, for their tender, close grained meat, and quantities of it, for the ready sale in the market. For all these.

In California the Houdan fanciers are growing in numbers. At the 1911 State Fair there were seven exhibitors with 56 Houdans in French class. At the 1911 Oakland show, there were 55 Houdans. At Petaluma, 55 were entered. The Houdan is gaining ground steadily here, as utility stock as well as fancy.

San Jose, California.

EMMA F. REID.

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## The Ideal Bird

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For many years I was Captain of a life saving station, and had plenty of spare time to experiment with chickens. I tried nearly all well-known breeds, until I thought of a breed I saw when a boy, that my uncle had on the beach. I heard him tell the story and when hens had stolen their nests in the high grass, I will not say at this late day how many eggs there were, but it was a large number, so I concluded to find a breeder who had that particular breed. I bought a trio, and to my surprise I had at least found my ideal in every point. For eggs none could beat them, and for meat, I think a Houdan is superior to any I ever had. Their meat is juicy and extra fine flavor. They are very tame and can be taught many tricks.

In conclusion, I will say that any one wanting an almost perfect bird, should try the Houdan.

Babylon, N. Y.

CAPT. C. E. ARNOLD.

# The Houdan in Dixie

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Some time ago, desiring to stop raising "any old fowl" and tie to a standard breed, we decided to adopt the Houdan. Since then we have not been sorry one moment of our choice.

Since breeding Houdans I have become convinced that they are the fowl best adapted to "Dixie." Following I will enumerate some of the reasons:

The Houdan has proved to be a prolific layer of larger than the average sized white eggs. Larger than the Leghorn, making a splendid table fowl. Not too large and inactive, like some of the new crosses, that are advertised as being a distinct breed. They are easy to breed true and throw a small percentage of culls. Can be line bred very successfully, which can not be done with any of the so-called new breeds. The Houdan flourishes in the South, being a natural born Winter layer, chicks can be hatched early in January, therefore avoiding the hot weather in early Spring and Summer. They mature very fast in this climate, Pullets laying at 4 1-2 to 5 months of age.

THE CREST which seems to be the point that the uninitiated object to, without any cause, is a decided advantage, as well as being a beauty mark of no small moment. While other fowls are seeking the shade or are overcome with heat, Miss Houdan goes proudly forth with her own sun shade and defies the torrid heat. As is well known, the most dread scourge that the Southern poultryman has to contend with is chicken pox or "sore head." The accepted theory is that this disease is inoculated into the fowl by the mosquito. That being the case can you conceive of a bird better fortified to be immune from this disease than the Houdan? Its small V comb and small wattles protected by crest and muffing makes it a difficult mark for the mosquito. My advice is for lovers of standard bred poultry to stop chasing the new "Wil-O-Wisp" and adopt the old long tried and reliable true Houdan.

Yours for success,

Ensley, Alabama.

W. J. ROOT.

# The Houdan at Home

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Having been in America for a number of years, my recollections regarding the Houdan in France are very vague and my knowledge of them at time was quite limited, but I will confine myself on the subject of their fine quality as a table fowl, as appreciated by the French people.

In France, the Houdan, is a most highly prized fowl for table use, they are greatly demanded by hotels and fancy restaurants and a good capon or roaster always commands a higher price than any other variety of poultry. The French poulterers are experts in preparing carcasses for market, they not only know how to fatten and stuff fowls to get plumper carcass, but they whiten, and mold, and manipulate the fowl after killing, until it looks almost good enough to be eaten without further preparation, and the Houdans with their small bones, white meat, absence of oily fat under the skin, is without question, the finest fowls, for culinary purposes.

The French Houdan as seen in the Provinces is of average size, quite light in color, has a medium sized crest, they are most excellent layers and as such, are very extensively kept.

Our American bred Houdan, compared to the French bird, is larger, darker in color, and when bred by fanciers, is a most beautiful and refined bird, as more care is given in mating and breeding to obtain larger size of body and crest, and dark, finely mottled color. The Houdan is bound to be extremely popular, as a great layer and producer of the most delicious meat.

Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

GEO. GUIGNET.

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## The Proper Shipment of Eggs

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Eggs for hatching should be gathered often, marked with the number so one can tell the pen they are from. Always keep them in a cool place. We prefer baskets for shipping. First the basket should be lined with paper; then place a thick layer of coarse clover chaff in the bottom. Tear newspaper pages into quarters, and wrap each egg in three or four of these pieces. Place the eggs in the center of the basket, packing them closely together, and filling around them with chaff. Cover the top with 3 or 4 inches of chaff or excelsior. Take



a piece of muslin large enough to cover the top of the basket. Have posters printed, bearing your name and address, the name of your breed of poultry and this notice: Eggs for Hatching. Handle Very Carefully! Keep several muslin tops labeled and ready at all times.

Sew your muslin over the top of the basket with cord, stretching it tightly, tucking in all bits hay, and turning in all edges of muslin, so your basket of eggs will have a neat business-like appearance.

Above all things, pack carefully, always bearing in mind that the express men are apt to throw it out on the platform, or use it for a football! So pack accordingly.

Marcellus, Michigan.

WILL M. BEADLE.

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## The Crest

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Suppose all the Houdans in the world were given their freedom on an island in the sea—an island in the temperate zone, with animal, vegetable and mineral resources sufficient to support life without human agency—and suppose that for one hundred years no man went near that island. What would the Houdan be like at the end of that time?

No doubt we should see the survivors of that supreme test little enough in common with the noble bird as we know him today. Evolution would work changes in size, shape, color and habits. Last season I had an experience which gave me a hint as to what the answer would be to the foregoing query. For certain reasons I wanted the eggs of a particular mating hatched and the chicks reared under natural conditions, so I delivered several settings to a farmer friend, and arranged with him to set the eggs under his scrub hens. The farmer's specialty was dairying, but there was a large old orchard on his place, which afforded ideal range conditions.

The eggs hatched well, and when the chicks were about two months old, I went out to see them, taking with me some legbands with which to identify the more promising specimens. I hoped to get some large-crested fowls out of that lot for show purposes. And the indications at that time were that my hopes would be realized. The crests were immature, but they promised all that the most exacting fancier could wish.

I didn't see those birds again until January of this year—perhaps it would be more accurate to say I never saw them again—for when I called the second time most of the flock had gone the way of all flesh. I asked my famer friend what had become of them, and his answer surprised me, as it no doubt will you:

The cows had stepped on them!

It is the unvarnished truth. He was very sorry, my farmer friend, because he had become attached to the birds; they were so "gentle," as he expressed it; but when their crests grew out, and got down over their eyes, they couldn't see to protect themselves. They fell victims, not only to cows, but to hawks, and dogs, and met with a score or more of different accidents, which might be expected to befall a blind creature in an orchard or a barnyard. And in almost every case it was the fowl with the large crest that was eliminated. The survivors had crests which did not obscure the vision.

This brings us back to our flock of Houdans which has been marooned on an island for one hundred years. The picture I conjure up of that insular bird is something like this: A slender fowl, average weight, three pounds; rather long as to body, legs and neck, steel gray as to color, and with a crest something like the aigret of the heron; a tuft of stiff, compact feathers on the male, and on the female resembling a diminutive willow plume, but in both cases standing up well off the head, and away from the eyes.

In that island wilderness, our Robinson Crusoe flock has reverted to original type—the jungle fowl, of which all domestic "chickens" are supposed to be descendants; the rule of survival of the fittest has prevailed, and the unfit have been eliminated. Nature has reasserted herself. The breed is no longer non-sitting. The sharp definition of black and white of which we are so proud has disappeared, and the mottling has merged into a dull gray; but the most pronounced change is in the crest, which no longer leaves the bird "naked to his enemies" by blinding his eyes. The large-crested specimens which made their debut on our island a hundred years ago presumably were stepped upon by the wild cows of the insular plains.

I do not conclude from this that we should breed jungle fowls in lieu of Houdans. But I do conclude that we should get away from the great, massive shock of feathers, which hides not only the eyes, but often most of the head itself, and passes for a crest. It is not ornamental. It certainly is not useful. There is no good reason why we should make monstrosities of the Houdan—not even for the sake of the premiums with which rather foolish judges in the poultry shows reward our misdirected zeal. The big crest is a fad just now, but it is a fatal fad—fatal to the Houdan. My farmer friend, after his experience, would not think of investing in the breed. He is a practical man. By all means, Brother Fanciers, let us renounce this false god, and for the sake of the breed we love, get down to practical working basis in the matter of the crest.

St. Joseph, Mo.

FRANK WICKIZER.

# Beautiful Houdans

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The Houdan is indeed "a thing of beauty and a joy forever." Furthermore, the poultry loving public are fast learning that Houdans are not only good to look at, but good to eat and good to lay. A fowl that has so many superior qualities cannot long remain in the background. Houdans are gaining in popularity daily. We see more and more of these beautiful flocks of graceful, crested birds. Their frost-proof qualities are giving us more Winter eggs in zero weather—and such exquisite, large, pearly white eggs, too, with that same delicate, delicious flavor that the well roasted Houdan gives. No wonder this is the favorite fowl of the great French nation—there's a reason!

I cannot speak too enthusiastically of the many superior qualities of this old famous breed. We see larger classes of these handsome birds in the show room every year, and they always claim their share of admiration from the admiring crowds.

No other chicken has the fascination for me that a large, dark, heavily crested, male Houdan gives. They are indeed the Royalty of Poultrydom; the Queens of the egg-basket; the Epicures delight—! Long live and prosper—the good old Houdan.

Ridgway, Pa.

H. E. DUNNE, M. D.

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## Houdan Popularity

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Upon the popularity of a breed depends the profitableness of it as fancier's fowl; and in order that it shall hold a high and lasting position in public favor the birds must have substantial merit in every way.

It is the duty of the fanciers to breed up to the highest point of excellence possible, always keeping the good qualities that have been developed and established in the past by such men as Daniel Pinckney, who was the greatest breeder of his time, if not of any time, keeping these qualities as a basis on which to build, and developing as much as possible some new point of excellence each year. Good Houdans always call forth pleasing comment for their style and beauty, but very few people think of Houdans as money-makers for the farmer and common poultry raiser. A change must be wrought in some way, before we can hope to succeed as we should.



The difficulty is that Houdans are not Mediterraneans, Asiatics, or Americans, but rival the first in egg production and what they lack in rivaling the two latter in quantity of flesh, they make up in quality; so that like the Ishmaelite, whose hand was against every man, and every man's hand against him, the Houdan has the organizations of every other breed to fight. Add to this the fight for supremacy among the largest breeders, allowing judges at the shows to make any standard they choose. Therefore the chance of the Houdan to play a winning game is indeed not flattering. It should be the duty of our organization to see that judges comply strictly with the standard requirements for the breed. In short, under the conditions just described, nothing but complete team-work can bring Houdans before the public as a popular breed. It will indeed take a long pull, a strong pull and a pull all together, to convince the people against the teachings of all other breed organizations, and the uncertainty existing among Houdan breeders themselves: First, that they are not merely a child's plaything, because they are beautiful; Second, that the crest is not grown on them to encourage the hawks to catch them; Third, that they are not small because they are compact, and, Fourth, that the crest is not a menace to their health in bad weather, if they are taken as good care of as other breeds are, to make them successful. In short, we must get the public to understand that they are a thoroughly practical fowl in every way, and have been bred for a century for that purpose. Then by systematic advertising and education we shall have secured public attention, the next step will then be to obtain and keep public confidence. I know of no better way than to send out stock and eggs that we would want ourselves and in most cases customers will be pleased and tell their friends about us and our birds that make good.

I have been breeding Houdans for more than 20 years and they have always been to me most interesting and profitable. There are none but Houdans whose meat is so sweet, tender and juicy. No other eggs have I found that are so rich and creamy, and there's not another breed that consumes so little food, but give abundant returns, both in quality and quantity.

There could be no better recommendation to the prospective customer it seems to me, that they are a profitable investment. Why shouldn't poultrymen, farmers, in fact every one who wishes to raise poultry, try Houdans. We as officers and members of the American Houdan Club, must co-work for their universal popularity.

Prestige gained by one fancier by unfair means does not make for; but detracts from, the popularity of the breed, to use the words of Abraham Lincoln:

"A fair chance and an unfettered start,"—is all that anyone can ask, for individual success. A corps of workers with this motto of live and let live, in view, could in a short time do wonders to win universal admiration and appreciation of this grand old breed.

Salem, Ind.

MRS. E. A. TRUEBLOOD.

# Electric Power in Numbers

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Every one will admit that there is an electric power in numbers.

Working people, even in the lower walks of human endeavor, work better, and do more work in the same length of time, where numbers are large than as isolated individuals.

The same is true in all civic societies,—in churches, in theaters—in labor unions, in armies, and particularly in schools, where strife and competition is sharp to excell in studies as well as in the line of promotions. No one likes to go into a church, or a theater, or attend a ball game, and see only a “beggary array of empty benches,” but with the seats all full, the speaker, the actor, or the ball tosser, gather an inspiration from the audience that is electric, and they all render a better account of themselves. The same rule holds true in all club life, and therefore in order to make the Houdan Club a power of good, it should have a much larger membership, as the good it can do by such means will be in proportion to its members.

We believe that the Houdan strain is the best all around bird for the amateur, for the family, and for the largest promoters of bird and egg craft, and therefore the individual has all to gain and nothing to lose by giving the Houdan the benefit of his best efforts, while the public at large is the general gainer. In view of these facts it behooves every member of the Houdan Club, as well as every lover of this noble bird to use his best endeavors to increase the membership of this club so as to strengthen the hands of its officers and thereby to enthuse them to better and larger work. It would seem to be an easy matter for each member to get at least one more to join, so that the club would number 400 in 1913 instead of 200 as now, and after the 400 mark is reached it would be much easier to make it 800 than it is now to make it 400; as membership increases in compound ratio where the cause is good, or as good as ours. Now let us put our shoulders to the wheel and boost it up to, or beyond 400 before the issuance of our yearly book for 1913.

Sparkill, N. Y.

W. B. LASSCELL.

# The Houdan of Merit

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After experimenting for several years with many varieties of fowl, and with the single purpose of determining which one of the large, and goodly variety of birds combined the most valuable, and profitable qualities, I finally decided upon the "Houdan."

There is but ONE BEST, and when that one is found, all others may be discarded, so that every effort may be concentrated on the breeding up of that one variety to the highest point of perfection—at least such is the system I have adopted, and am following.

After settling this one point, the next thing to do was to find out where, and of whom I could obtain the highest breed of stock.

This was no easy task, for all breeders claimed to have the best, and therefore I must buy my breeding stock from several, and try out the question by long and expensive experiments, until at last I feel that I have reached the ideal bird. I keep but one variety of fowl, the Houdan. I have found the Houdan to be the most gentle, and beautiful of all fowl, and my experience has taught me that they are the best all around birds in every particular in existence today.

Sparkill, N. Y.

W. B. LASSCELL.

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## Restoring the Popularity of the Houdan

The decline in popularity of the Houdan fowl in this country can be attributed to two causes: First—the wholesale boosting of the Rhode Island Reds and the Orpingtons, both being comparatively new breeds; Second—the unfortunate and unpleasant notoriety the Houdan experienced through the questionable transactions of unscrupulous dealers and breeders.

What to do to restore this famous French fowl to its former popularity is more easily said than done, and it will require hard, earnest and intelligent efforts of the club officials and members to bring this about. The elimination of the few breeders that brought discredit on the Houdan fancy, is after all of the least importance, as such abuses usually right themselves in time.

But it is necessary to bring before the poultry raisers of the country more thoroughly, more widely and more persistently the great intrinsic



merits of the Houdan fowl, by advertising the latter broadcast over this fair land of ours. By advertising I do not mean, that by simply placing large advertisements in the poultry journals, the restoration will be effected for this is only one means—and a good one—of reaching the goal. What is really wanted is plenty of advertising of the Houdans at our poultry shows. Bring out strong entries at every show of importance, disseminate literature among the visitors at these shows that tell what a really good fowl the Houdan is.

Then follow it up by writing articles to appear in the poultry papers from time to time. Illustrate these articles as completely as possible and never lose sight of bringing out the strong utilitarian points of the Houdans. Remember we are living in an age just now where the country has gone "utility mad" on chicken culture.

Remember also, that this is the white shelled egg era, and that no breed on earth has any license to surpass the Houdan when it comes to shelling out large white eggs.

Furthermore, the splendid table qualities of the Houdan should be pushed to the front, for the demand is getting greater every year for fine, thin, white skinned carcasses, and the Houdan has one of the finest of this brand in the world.

Again, the fact that Houdans can be easily kept in small yards is another point that ought to be brought out by its friends. The beauty of the breed will take care of itself, so no fear need be entertained on that score. Any man or woman who has bred Houdans for any length of time will seldom want to change the breed for another. There is nothing more attractive in chickendom than a bunch of Houdan chicks just out of the shell and for week afterwards. Once poultry fanciers see Houdans raised under favorable environments, they immediately become interested in them, and the more they see of Houdans the better they like them, which leads us to conclude by stating, that a concerted effort on the part of Houdan breeders to show their favorites anywhere and everywhere when the opportunity affords, will eventually result in their restoration to the well deserved popularity they enjoyed several years ago.

Buffalo, N. Y., Feb. 27, 1912.

J. H. DREVENSTEDT.



# A First Lesson in Advertising

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Note—This article is reprinted from last year's book, by request, and is of especial interest to new members.—Secretary.

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One of the problems that confronts the poultryman is to dispose of his surplus stock at a profit. Culls, of course, should be sold to market, but after the breeder has selected his own show and breeding stock, his surplus should be sold to others who either want to start in the business or improve the strain they already have.

The poultry press is the accepted medium for the disposal of all such stock and it only remains for the poultryman to determine which paper will best serve his purpose. This choice should be made after careful study of the different papers, as to the class of buyers they reach. A breeder having only utility stock for sale wastes his money trying to reach the man looking for new blood to improve his strain. Neither should the breeder of high class show stock advertise in journals catering to the class to whom "a chicken is a chicken" regardless of whether or not it is an ideal specimen. It is also a waste for the small advertiser to advertise in what are known as "repeaters." By these are meant papers covering the same field as those by which the advertiser is already represented. Those carrying large space cannot well avoid this, but the smaller breeder can select his papers so as to reach the maximum number of readers at the minimum expense. Should the advertiser do enough business to justify, this matter could easily be settled by giving his contract to some good advertising company, that makes a business of placing advertising where it will get results. But to the man who has only a few birds to dispose of each year, this method is not practical. He must choose for himself, and his first effort will be more or less an experiment. Should he use two or more journals, his advertising should be keyed and a record made of all inquiries received and sales made. This will enable him to cut off all papers that do not show a profit, which is just as important as killing the hen that does not lay.

This brings us up to writing the ad, where of course all keying is done. It is a hard matter to tell just what should be written as this must be governed by conditions. Should the advertiser choose the breeder's cards are classified advertisements, he then should make his name or the name of the strain prominent. He is in a class of one variety and should endeavor to convince the reader that it is from him that he should buy, rather than from the others who are advertising in the same column. This can best be done by making your winnings and

name equally prominent. But should you choose the display advertising, you should always keep in mind that unless you are one of the largest breeders and your name has become connected with your breed in such a way that one can't think of your breed without thinking of you, it is well for you to make the name of your breed prominent and let your descriptive matter and name follow in more modest form. When the reader is looking through the advertisements for breeders of Houdans, he will be more likely to see the large word "Houdan" than he will the equally large "John Smith, breeder of Houdans."

Do not use pictures of yourself. A cut of an extra fine bird is a good advertisement but most journals are glad to have them and will run them free of charge to you, giving you proper credit. Be concise and state your position in a straightforward manner. Do not overlook any of the good points possessed by your birds, but don't make claims you can't make good. Remember that you are talking to an intelligent people and that they have a right to expect everything you promise in your advertisement.

No one can appreciate the value of fair representation more than myself. In my two years as President of your club I have had ample opportunity to see the results of false claims. "Thousand dollar birds," "286 eggs per year, with egg record stamped on inside of sealed leg band," "birds scoring 100 plus," and "Remember, no matter what the competition, I can furnish the winners," have all come in for their share of complaints. The old breeder is not fooled by these claims and the amateur is fooled only for a short time. Then the Houdan loses an advocate, and we lose the sales to one who would, from time to time, be in the market for stock or eggs. Blow your horn if you will, but blow only about the things you really have. Remember at all times that a pleased customer is your best advertisement and that a dissatisfied one means the loss of the money spent in reaching him.

Figure closely how much you have to sell and how much you can afford to pay for selling it. Then keep within your limit. This may not be possible the first year but with the system of keying and records above mentioned, there is no reason for failure afterward.

By keying, is meant the arrangement of the advertisement in each paper so that the inquirer will let you know where he saw your ad. The usual way is a different box or drawer number in each paper, but I find it best to key the ads so that the inquirer unconsciously mentions it when writing. A little study will suggest a number of ways in which this can be done.

When the inquiries begin to come you should have a book or cards for recording them. Each paper should have a page or card on which should be kept a record of inquiries received, sales made, and what grade of stock or eggs were sold. At the close of the season you can balance your account with each paper and will be in a position to



place your advertising intelligently the next. The inquiries and sales made will tell you what papers bring results in that way, and the grade of stock or eggs sold will enable you to know what class of breeders is reached by each paper.

I have found it profitable to so word my ads as to get an inquiry rather than to try to make the sale direct from the advertisement. Then with the aid of a nice catalog or mating list and personal letters, the wants of each customer can be ascertained and more and better sales made.

Columbus, Ohio.

JOHN T. HEIZER.

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## Miss Houdan

By E. F. LIDDICOATE

Miss Houdan is a dainty bird,  
More beautiful and useful far,  
Than Rock, Red, Dotte or Langshan  
Or boasted Orphingtonians are;  
And she knows how to turn the trick  
Of laying large white eggs galore,  
In winter, when such eggs are classed  
With golden nuggets at the store.  
She with her beauteous crest and beard  
Is muffled like sweet maid in fur,  
Cold winter winds may bluster, but  
They have no ill effects on her;  
Her raiment's all so snug and warm  
Jack Frost can very seldom chill,  
And when the feed man comes around  
The Houdan lady pays his bill.

# “JINGLES”

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By W. B. LASSCELL, Sparkill, N. Y.

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The Houdan! The Houdan is the strain for me,  
A bird that has come to stay,  
A bird that's handsome as handsome can be,  
A bird that is good in every way.

A bird that's adorned with a crowning crest,  
Enrobed in black and white,  
A beauty on the lawn or nest,  
In weight she's far from light.

She lays an egg that can't be beat,  
In taste, color, weight, or size.  
Her flesh is the choicest of meat;  
In every way, entitled to the prize.

We love our Houdan of crested fame,  
A bird that's bound to rise;  
Long may she bear the fame  
As nearest the bird of Paradise.



## Houdans of Merit

My birds are  
bred up to a  
high degree of  
perfection.

W.B. LASSCELL

SPARKILL, N. Y.

EGGS

\$2.50 per Setting

## BOWDENS' MAMMOTH DARK HOUDANS

Winning weight special at Philadelphia 1911 on  
Cock bird. Cock bird weighing 8-9 lbs., Hens  
7-8 lbs. Our birds have been winners for the last 12  
years, if you want size and vigor, try a setting or  
two of our eggs, always a square deal.

Eggs \$3.00 and \$5.00 for 15

MR. and MRS. R. Y. BOWDEN

CLIFTON SPRINGS, N. Y.



# HOUDANS AS THEY SHOULD BE

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*Heavily crested, long-bodied, large, dark  
birds--the mountain raised, fresh-air  
housed, trap nested, winning kind*

At Ridgway, 1912, in a class of 48 Houdans.—Won, 1-2 Cocks, 1-2 Hens, 1-2-3 Cockerels, 1-2-3 Pullets, 1-2 Pens. Special for the best bird in the class. Silver cup for largest entry. Silver cup for best Cock, Hen, Cockerel and Pullet in the show. Special Silver Cup for Best Display, all varieties competing, and many minor specials.

At Pittsburg Fanciers' Show, 1912, in strong competition, on six entries, won: 1st Cock, 1st Cockerel, 1-2-3-4-5 Pullets.

These winnings speak louder than words for the  
high quality of my birds

EGGS AND STOCK FOR SALE

CIRCULAR FREE

Prompt correspondence, quick delivery and a square  
deal

**DR. H. E. DUNNE**

Corner Center and Mill Sts.

RIDGWAY, PA.

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# HOUDANS OF REFINEMENT



This picture was not retouched

**SCOTT A. CLARK, Sullivan, Ohio**

**CLARK'S  
HOUDANS**  
have won at  
**Madison  
Square,  
Pittsburg,  
Cleveland,  
Toledo,  
Columbus,  
Chicago and  
Kansas City**

## HOUDANS...

Winners at

Allentown  
Hagerstown  
Philadelphia  
Baltimore  
Boston  
and other shows

Our matings are unsurpassed as egg producers and winners. Grandest types, long back, largest crest, dark, finely mottled colored. Also just received from England's best two large importations of enormous crested dark birds.

If interested in good Houdans send for my catalogue. Low price, quality and satisfaction guaranteed.

# GEO. GUIGNET

Houdan Specialist

Carlisle, Pa.

# Houdans of Quality

We have shipped birds to all parts of the world---including every State in the U. S. and Canada and many States in Mexico; also in Honolulu.

Houdans of Quality go to all  
parts of the word



Also winners in America's leading shows, and winners in the hands of customers at hundreds of State and local shows.

I can furnish winners in any competition, Send me 20c for my new Houdan book, for 1912. Write me at once.

**DR. G. W. TAYLOR**  
**ORLEANS, IND.**

Member Executive Committee American Houdan Club



# HOUDANS

Boston and New York Winners

AT BOSTON 1912, 1st COCKEREL, 4th  
COCK, 2nd PULLET. MADISON SQUARE  
1911, 5th PULLET.

Eggs \$3.00 and \$5.00 per 15

Stock for Sale

Write Your Wants

**JAMES H. ANDREWS**

Box 128

Mt. Kisco, N. Y.

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## BRIDLEMERE POULTRY YARDS

**Houdans and Golden**

**Sebright Bantams**

**STOCK AND EGGS FROM PRIZE**

**WINNING TRAP-NESTED BIRDS**

**Medfield, Mass.**

# From *American Poultry World* Buffalo, N. Y., May, 1911.

Note remarks of J. H. Drevenstedt  
the noted Houdan judge



A fine type of a Houdan female, crest and beard abundant and shapely, neck full, back long, breast broad and well rounded, body long and deep (a most characteristic feature); mottling close to Standard requirements, the black and white color being well balanced. Houdans of this kind are not only beautiful, but useful. They have the bodies that make good layers and great table fowl.—J. H. Drevenstedt.

Of course you are interested in this class of Houdans. Our booklet and 1912 mating list free.

**J. A. UNDERWOOD**

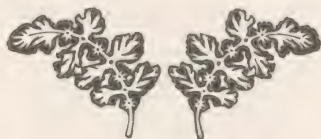
HOUDANS ONLY

PENN YAN, N. Y.

# Abernethy's Houdans

## BRED FOR QUALITY—NOT QUANTITY

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WINNERS AT SUCH SHOWS AS MADISON  
SQUARE GARDEN, BOSTON, PHILADEL-  
PHIA, HAGERSTOWN AND BROCKTON



### Some Winnings :

Boston, 1911—First Cock. Second, Third, Fourth  
Hens on five entries.

Philadelphia, Dec, 1911—In the largest show of  
Houdans seen in the United States, 131 birds in com-  
petition, FIRST COCK, FIRST HEN, Fourth Hen, Second  
Pullet on eight entries.

I guarantee full satisfaction in every deal, all cor-  
respondence promptly attended to.

---

## JAS. ABERNETHY

WEST PEMBROKE, MAINE



# C. Clinton Bennett

South Auburn, R. I.

BREEDER OF PRIZE WINNING BIRDS



## MOTTLED HOUDANS A SPECIALTY

Eggs for Hatching from the following Breeds :

Houdans, W. Face Black Spanish, Blue Andalusians,  
S. C. R. I. Reds, Silver Duckwing Leghorns.



All Kinds of Polish.

Barred and White Rocks. Indian Runner Ducks.



We won 43 Firsts, 11 Seconds, 2 Thirds and 10 Specials,  
this season.

## My Houdans Are Winners



Among the Best  
They Stood the  
Test . . . . .



Arley C. Metcalfe

926 Light St.

BALTIMORE, - - MD.

## HOUDANS



On four entries at Hagerstown they won 1st and 2nd Cockerel and 3rd and 4th Hen.

Stock and Eggs for Sale

Mrs. W. L. Spencer

Waverly

BALTIMORE, MD.

I Breed Only

# Faultless Houdans

McAvoy Strain

---

They again prove their right to the title of

## Champions of America

by winning

## Best Display

At Grand Central Palace, Philadelphia (club  
meeting), Madison Square Garden

---

THE STRAIN THAT HAS MADE THE  
BREED FAMOUS

---

Stock and Eggs for Sale in Season  
CIRCULAR FREE

---

## F. J. REVELEY

Box 241

EAST HAVEN, CONN.

# POPULAR THAT WIN AND LAY HOUDANS

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We won more Firsts at The Great Mid-West Poultry and Pet Stock Show, at Chicago, in the past two years, than any other competitor.

At Chicago in December 1910, we only entered two birds, and won: 1st Cockerel, 3rd Hen; Chicago December 1911, 1st Cock (1st Cockerel of 1910), 1st Pullet, 1st Pen; Detroit Mich., January 1912, 1st Cock, 1st, 2nd Hen, 1st, 2nd Pullet, 1st Pen, Bronze Medal on Pen, and Silver Cup for Best Display in French Class; at Kalamazoo Mich., February 1910, 1st Cock, 1st Hen, 2nd Cockerel, 2nd Pullet; at South Bend Ind., December-January 1909-10, 1st Cock, 3rd Hen, 1-2 Cockerel, 1-2-3-4 Pullet; also A. P. A. Diploma for 1st Cockerel and Silver Cup for best display in the French Class.

Stock and eggs in season. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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WILL M. BEADLE, . . Marcellus, Mich.

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## Arnold Famous Trick Houdans

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Cockerels Winning First and Second at  
both Madison Square and Palace Shows  
also the Club Special on Crest and Color

EGGS \$3.00 AND \$5.00 FOR 15

CAPT. C. E. ARNOLD, : Babylon, N. Y.



# REID'S HOUDANS

won a large share of prizes at the 3 shows, where exhibited, the *Best* was the "Eklund Cup" for best 10 parti-colored birds in whole show, Oakland, 1911.



Stock and Eggs for sale always. Any time.



MRS. EMMA F. REID

Box 54

R. D. 4

SAN JOSE, CALIF.

---

## *Houdans in Dixie*

.....

Our Strain "*The Dixie Houdan*" has been bred up by us from Selected Show Birds and Egg Producers and carried every prize offered at Birmingham last fall.

Write us for particulars and printed matter.

*Twin-Oak Poultry Plant*

*Thorsby, Ala.*

START WITH HEALTHY VIG-  
OROUS HOUDANS. It's cheapest.  
The "Q. & B." strain is unsurpassed  
as heavy layers and prize-winners.  
Eggs \$3 per 15; ten chicks guaran-  
teed. Catalogue free. QUIMBY &  
BROWN, 109-U High Street, Ipswich  
Mass. : : : : :

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# W. J. ROOT

## Houdans ✱ BEARDED WHITE POLISH BANTAMS

Bred for Utility and Exhibition

ENSLEY, ALA.

My strain originated from a careful combi-  
nation of the best blood obtainable. Cockerels  
and Pullets furnished for the early shows. Win-  
ners wherever shown.

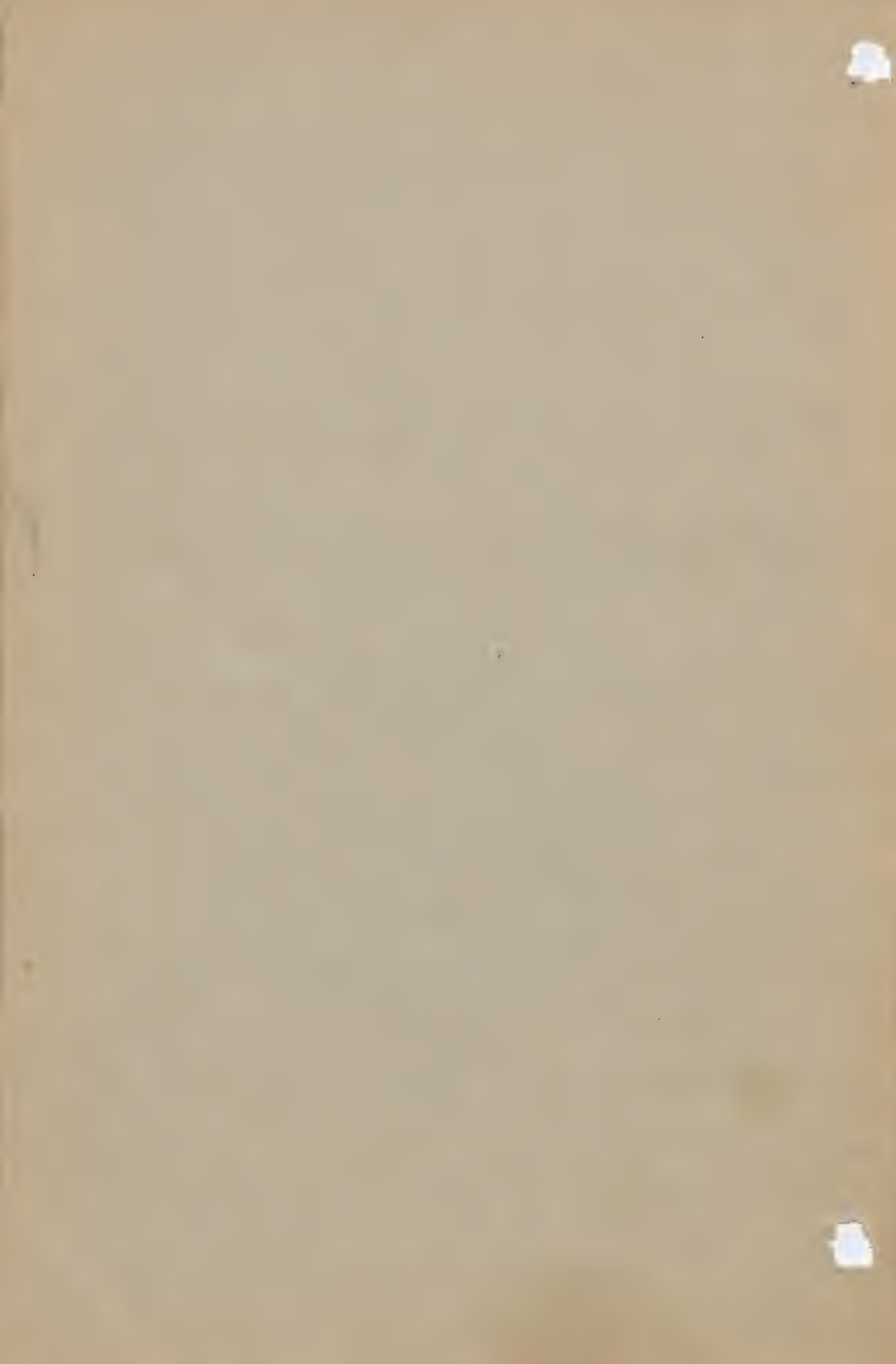
*Member Alabama Poultry Association*

*Alabama Vice President American Houdan Club*

THE SOUTHARD NOVELTY CO.  
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI







# American Houdan Club



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## Year Book 1913 - 1914



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Official Club Year Book  
OF THE  
AMERICAN HOUDAN CLUB

Member American Poultry Association.

1913 - 1914.



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AMERICAN HOUDAN CLUB.

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Published by Authority of the Members.  
Compiled by the Secretary.

## TO THE MEMBERS.

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IT is my privilege again to send greetings to the members of the American Houdan Club and while I have had the pleasure of meeting many of the members personally, I should like to know every one of them. The condition of the Club as to membership, finances, and general good for the grand old Houdan was never better, and I trust that in the years to come that you can look back and view with satisfaction the result of the efforts made by your officers of 1913. Your present officers and Executive Committee, and especially many of your State Vice-Presidents, are progressive, and are doing everything possible to boom the Houdan. It was thought best this year to issue the Year Book in the Fall, owing to the busy season of Spring for fanciers and it is believed that the change will be for the best, giving you a new book, new advertisements, new list of members on the eve of the show season. The Secretary desires to express his appreciation of the efforts made by those who have contributed to this Year Book in articles, photographs, and also advertising, etc., which has so materially aided in making this one of the best Year Books yet issued by the Club.

The show season will soon be here, and now is the time to plan for making an exhibit at your local or district show. Nothing does the breed so much good as a large exhibit in the Houdan class. Not only make an exhibit, but have some literature explaining the good points of the breed, and that you are prepared to furnish eggs or stock of this "White-Egg-Bred-to-Lay-Sure-to-Pay" breed.

The Secretary desires to state that he is at all times willing to give any information to any member regarding anything that may be of interest to him in Houdan matters. Do not hesitate to write him if you are in doubt.

Trusting that this Year Book may prove not only useful, but interesting, to you, and that it may increase your interest in the good old Houdan.

I am

Yours fraternally,

J. A. UNDERWOOD, Secretary.



# OFFICERS OF THE CLUB.

1913.

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## PRESIDENT.

Jas Abernethy, West Pembroke, Me.

## VICE-PRESIDENT,

Thos. F. Rigg, Iowa Falls, Iowa,

## SECRETARY-TREASURER.

J. A. Underwood, Penn Yan, N. Y.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Daniel P. Shove, Fall River, Mass.

John T. Heizer, Columbus, Ohio.

Mrs. Emma F. Reid, San Jose, Cal.

C. E. Arnold, Babylon, L. I., N. Y.

Dr. G. G. Billman, Sullivan, Ind.

## STATE VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Alabama—W. J. Root, Ensley.

California—Dr. William E. Allen, San Diego.

Canada—W. V. Charlton, West London, Ont.

Colorado—F. W. Schilling, 603 Gas and Elec. Bldg., Denver.

Connecticut—N. L. Deming, Litchfield.

Dist. of Columbia—Thos. A. Aiton, R. D. 3, Washington.

Idaho—J. C. Murphy, Rupert.

Illinois—C. J. Lancaster, Maywood.

Indiana—Laura B. Reiff, Idaville.

Iowa—John W. Brader, Plainfield.

Kansas—E. D. Hartzell, Rossville.

Kentucky—Otis Russell, Shepherdsville.

Maine—Dr. E. A. Wight, Bolster's Mills.

Maryland—A. C. Metcalf, 926 Light St., Baltimore.

Massachusetts—Miss Minnie Blagden, Rowley.

Minnesota—Miss Letta Thorsen, Blooming Prairie.

Michigan—Wm. M. Beadle, Marcellus.

Missouri—John Baber, Lawson.

New Jersey—Charles E. Hendrickson, Jr., 75 Montgomery  
St., Jersey City.

New York—C. B. Campbell, 206 N. Park Ave., Buffalo.

New Hampshire—John R. Taylor, Laconia.

Ohio—Miss Theta Blanche Moore, E. Fultonham.

Oregon—Norman L. Rogers, St. Johns.  
 Pennsylvania—Dr. H. E. Dunne, Ridgway.  
 Rhode Island—C. E. Seigel, Olneyville.  
 Tennessee—Dr. J. F. Leeper, Lenoir City.  
 Texas—Mrs. W. H. Shobe, El Paso.  
 Virginia—Paul C. Bischoff, Cherrydale.  
 Washington—Julian E. Zenier, Asotin.  
 West Virginia—A. D. Woodford, Berryburg.  
 Wisconsin—Fred Arnsmeier, Beloit.

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## OFFICIAL JUDGES AMERICAN HOUDAN CLUB.

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The following Judges are approved by the Committee, and Show Secretaries are requested to confer with them. Additional Judges will be named as soon as possible :

|                                      |                                     |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| J. H. DREVENSTEDT,<br>Buffalo, N. Y. | THOS. F. RIGG,<br>Iowa Falls, Iowa. |
| DANIEL P. SHOVE,<br>Fall River, Mass | WM. C. DENNY,<br>Buffalo, N. Y.     |
| GEORGE O. BROWNE,<br>Baltimore, Md.  | FRANK MCKENZIE,<br>Concord, Mich.   |
| GEORGE GUIGNET,<br>Carlisle, Pa.     | JOHN A. GOUGH,<br>New Haven, Conn.  |
| RICHARD OKE,<br>London, Ont.         | JOHN T. HEIZER,<br>Columbus, Ohio.  |
| JAMES TUCKER,<br>Concord, Mich.      | WM. G. MINNICH,<br>Carlisle, Pa.    |

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## OHIO.

Barber, P. D. . . . . Amherst  
 Brown, Fred R. . . . . Toronto  
 Heizer, John T. . . . . 379 E. Northwood Ave., Columbus  
 Hill, Dr. E. . . . . Euclid  
 Metzler, Jacob L. . . . . Findlay  
 Moore, Miss Theta Blanche . . . . . E. Fultonham

## OREGON

Robbins, L. S. . . . . Salem  
 Rogers, Norman L. . . . . St. Johns

## PENNSYLVANIA.

Aeberli, Howard P. . . . . 1507 Termon Ave., Pittsburg  
 Akerman, F. A. . . . . 604 Oak St., Irwin  
 Barr & Skottowe . . . . . Narvon  
 Bloomgreen, F. G. . . . . Ridgway  
 Bowman, Wm. I. . . . . DuBois  
 Buss, Clarence E. . . . . Allentown  
 Canterbury J. H. . . . . 2934 Frink St., Scranton  
 Cox, John A. . . . . Verona  
 Degelman, Wm. C. . . . . 435 Sixth Ave., Pittsburg  
 Davis, Wm. W. . . . . 210 Harker St., Pittsburg  
 Dunne, M. D., H. E. . . . . Ridgway  
 Dunne, M. D., Anna Bartsch . . . . . Ridgway  
 Fry, I. Oliver . . . . . Bainbridge  
 Gilch, H. F. . . . . Duquesne  
 Gilpin, Chas. L. . . . . Haverford  
 Guignet, Geo. . . . . Carlisle  
 Herring, C. M. P. . . . . Villa Nova  
 Hibala, Paul, . . . . . Box 64, Glenfield  
 Hood, W. L. . . . . 434 Hastings St., So. Williamsport  
 Holton, Oliver W. . . . . Catasauqua  
 Johnson, H. K. . . . . 7712 Stanton Ave., Swissvale  
 Kissinger, John F. . . . . Dauberville  
 Leonard, E. J. . . . . Elkland  
 Mosebach, F. A. . . . . Bethlehem  
 Michels, Jos. H. . . . . 2032 N. Howard St., Philadelphia  
 Miller, Harry D. . . . . 1021 Allen St., Allentown  
 Pursell, Dr. J. P. . . . . Sellersville  
 Roberts, Geo. K. . . . . 150 W. Pike St., Cannonsburg  
 Rhodes, John E. . . . . Box 405, Johnstown  
 Robertson F. . . . . 103 Woodlawn Ave, Bellevue  
 Smith, J. Emlen . . . . . Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia  
 Springman, G. Harvey . . . . . Williamsport  
 Schneller & Bellheimer . . . . . Bethlehem  
 Smith, Irvin H. . . . . Sewickley  
 Smith, F. B. Jr., . . . . . Sewickley

Soapstone Farm . . . . . Ilaverford  
 Stitsell, D. R. . . . . 921 Kirkbride St., Pittsburg  
 Waldschmidt, Edw. F. . . . . 43 North Ave., Pittsburg  
 Winstone, Cornelius . . . . . 273 Kirkpatrick St, Braddock  
 Xaonder, Chas. P. . . . . Centre Valley  
 Zacharias, J. W. . . . . Verona

#### RHODE ISLAND.

Bennett, C. Clinton . . . . . So. Auburn  
 Seigel, C. E. . . . . Olneyville

#### TEXAS.

Dean, Chet. L. . . . . 215 Mills St., El Paso  
 Shobe, Mrs. W. H. . . . . 3630 Alameda St., El Paso

#### TENNESSEE.

Leeper, Dr. J. F. . . . . Lenoir City

#### WASHINGTON

Zenier, Julian E. . . . . Asotin

#### VIRGINIA.

Bischoff, Paul C. . . . . Cherrydale  
 Powers, W. Dudley . . . . . Warrenton

#### WEST VIRGINIA

Woodford, A. D. . . . . Berryburg

#### WISCONSIN.

Arnsmeier, Fred . . . . . 741 Lincoln Ave., Beloit  
 Buck Staff Farm . . . . . Oshkosh  
 Brown, Earl F. . . . . Janesville  
 Dunbar, Miss Lula . . . . . R. D. 1, Elkhorn  
 Holt, F. J. . . . . Janesville  
 Riker, Chas. . . . . Janesville  
 Myer, John C. . . . . Oconto Falls  
 Kelly, C. A. . . . . Browntown

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### IN MEMORIAM.

---

WALTER STOWMAN, Flourtown, Pa.  
 JOHN O. B. ROSS, New Orleans, La.  
 GEORGE D. WIDENER, Elkins Park, Pa.

# OFFICERS

OF THE

## AMERICAN HOUDAN CLUB.

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On this and following pages are shown some of the members who are working for the Houdan—all the time.

---



DANIEL P. SHOVE,  
Fall River, Mass.  
Executive Committee.



C. E. ARNOLD,  
Babylon, N. Y.  
Executive Committee.



DR G. G. BILLMAN,  
Sullivan, Ind.  
Executive Committee.



J. A. UNDERWOOD,  
Penn Yan, N. Y.  
Secretary-Treasurer.



# CONSTITUTION

## OF THE

### AMERICAN HOUDAN CLUB.

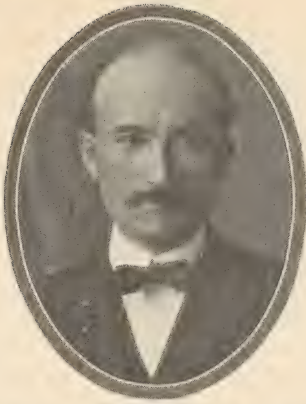
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1. This Club will be called the " American Houdan Club. "
2. The object of the Club shall be to promote and increase the breeding and popularity of the Houdan among the great body of fanciers, utility poultrymen and those keeping fowls to furnish eggs and meat for the family use. To stand unitedly for the standard as officially declared and to urge all breeders to conform to it.
3. The officers of the Club shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, a State Vice-President from each State and Province represented, and an Executive Committee of not less than three members. All officers except State Vice Presidents shall be elected by all members voting by mail to the Secretary, who shall open and count the ballots at the annual meeting. The State Vice-Presidents shall be elected by all members of the Club in their respective States, voting in the same manner. The officers shall serve from the end of one regular annual meeting to the end of the next regular annual meeting. No one can hold two or more offices at the same time.
4. There shall be a regular annual meeting; the time and place for holding same shall be determined by the Club members voting by mail to the Secretary-Treasurer. Three members shall constitute a quorum. A special meeting can be called by the President or two members of the Executive Committee.

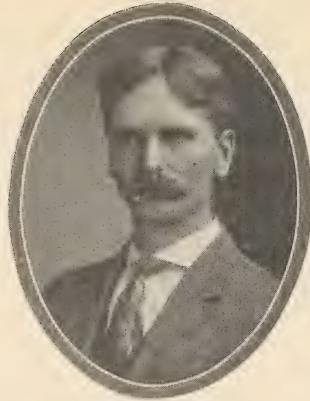
The order of business at all meetings of the Club to be:

1. Roll call.
  2. Reading of minutes of previous meeting.
  3. Reading of full report of Secretary-Treasurer.
  4. Reading of communications.
  5. Unfinished business.
  6. New business.
  7. Reading of list of members gained and lost.
  8. Counting of ballots and announcement of election of new officers.
  9. Discussion of plans for increasing membership of Club, and general exchange of ideas.
  10. Adjournment.
5. The President is the Chief Executive Officer, and shall preside at all meetings and appoint all special committees. He shall recommend policy and action to the Executive Committee, authorize the Secretary-Treasurer to transact such business as has been decided on, and to see that the policy and business of the Club is carried out with energy and dispatch.

The Vice-President shall be chairman of the Executive Committee and



DR. WILLIAM E. ALLEN,  
San Diego, Cal.  
State Vice-President.



C. J. LANCASTER,  
Maywood, Ill.  
State Vice-President.



E. D. HARTZELL,  
Rossville, Kan.  
State Vice-President



A. C. METCALFE,  
Baltimore, Md.  
State Vice-President.



MISS MINNIE BLAGDEN,  
Rowley, Mass.  
State Vice-President.



WILL M. BEADLE,  
Marcelus, Mich.  
State Vice-President.

in case of absence of the President, he is to act as President. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a record of all business of the Club, attend promptly to all correspondence, receive all moneys and disburse same when authorized by voucher signed by the President, keep members notified of date and place of meetings, receive and record ballots and keep members informed of all important matters relating to the Club. At each annual meeting he shall make a full written report of moneys received and disbursed, members added or lost and any other important matters of interest to the Club.

The Executive Committee should outline the work of the Club, receive and take action on the recommendations of the President and notify him of their decisions. The State Vice-Presidents shall look after the interests of the Club and the Houdan in their respective States, solicit new members, make suggestions in regard to offering of Cups, Ribbons, or Cash Prizes. They should report to the President and preside at meetings when the President and Vice-President are both absent. The members who are not officers shall also do all in their power to advance the interests of the Club and the Houdan. They should support the Club financially and morally, ask every Houdan breeder known to them, and their customers to join the Club, and to so conduct their poultry business that the public may learn to know that when they deal with a member of the American Houdan Club they are dealing with a reliable poultryman. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the officers of the Club it shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

6. Application for membership must be made to the Secretary-Treasurer and must be accompanied by one dollar, which will include membership fee and first year's dues. No person shall be enrolled as a member until after such fee and dues have been paid. Annual dues after first year shall be one dollar. Upon payment of \$10.00 a life membership card will be issued, entitling the holder to all the benefits of the Club without further payment of dues. All past holders of life memberships are hereby established in their standing as life members.

All dues must be paid by November 1st. The Secretary-Treasurer shall notify all members in arrears of dues, and if same are not paid by December 1st, he or they shall be dropped from the Club.

Any member or officer of the Club, who, after complaint, is found guilty of conduct unbecoming a gentleman, a poultryman and a Club member, shall be expelled by a two-thirds vote of the officers, and notice of action may be sent to leading Poultry Journals. Resignations may be made by giving written notice to the Secretary-Treasurer. No resignation can be accepted if the member is in arrear of dues, or if there be any charges pending against him.

7. All money left after running expenses are paid shall be expended as follows :

For Cups, Ribbons, or Cash Prizes at Poultry Shows . 80 per cent.

For Cash Reserve . . . . . 20 per cent.

All prizes offered by the Club shall be open for competition only to birds





CHAS. E. HENDRICKSON, Jr.,  
Jersey City, N. J.  
State Vice-President.



C. B. CAMPBELL,  
Buffalo, N. Y.  
State Vice-President.



JOHN R. TAYLOR,  
Laconia, N. H.  
State Vice-President.



MISS THETA BLANCHE MOORE,  
E. Fultonham, Ohio.  
State Vice-President.



NORMAN L. ROGERS,  
St. Johns, Oregon.  
State Vice-President.



DR. H. E. DUNNE,  
Ridgway, Pa.  
State Vice-President.

owned and exhibited by Club members. Prizes shall be offered at such shows as in the opinion of the Executive Committee, acting with advice of State Vice-Presidents, seems most advisable. Prizes shall be apportioned in different States and Sections in proportion to the number of Club members therein as nearly as can be determined.

8. The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all members who respond to the call for vote either by mail or in person.

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## CLUB SPECIALS.

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In every State or Province having ten or more members, the Club will offer a handsome Silver Cup for the best display of Houdans shown by a member of the Club residing in that State or Province, and the member winning the most points on Houdans, regardless of the number of entries, shall be declared the winner. Cups may also be offered at such shows as the Executive Committee may deem advisable.

And a Cup shall be offered at the Show where the Club holds its Annual Meeting, which Cup shall be open to competition of all the members of the Club

In all contests for Cups offered by the Club for the best display, the following Scale of Points shall decide the winner :

Single birds First prize, 10 points; second prize, 8 points; third prize, 6 points; fourth prize, 4 points; fifth prize, 2 points. Pens—First prize, 15 points; second prize, 12 points; third prize, 9 points; fourth prize, 6 points; fifth prize, 3 points.

State Vice-Presidents should make special efforts to secure enough members in their States to entitle them to a State Cup.

Special Ribbons will be offered by the Club at such Shows as the Executive Committee, acting with the advice of the State Vice-Presidents, shall deem advisable.

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## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

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I take pleasure in greeting the officers and members of the American Houdan Club through this Year Book for 1913-14.

The past year has been a prosperous one for the Club and we have made a healthy growth, adding many good Houdan fanciers to our roll, and I believe that to make a Specialty Club successful we want Quality in membership more than we do Quantity.

We have had to strike some names from our list for non-payment of dues or because in some cases a member may have ceased breeding Houdans. This loss is one that is common to all Specialty Clubs and is to be

expected. On the whole the Club is in a better and stronger condition than it was a year ago.

The past year has also been a prosperous one for the Houdan fancy in general. More people have been keeping and breeding Houdans than ever before. There has been a good demand for stock and eggs, and more Houdans have been exhibited at the different shows all over the country, and the quality of these birds are better than before.

The Poultry public has, and is, taking a greater interest in the Houdan fowl and more space is being devoted by the Poultry Press to its interests.

This condition of affairs is gratifying to all lovers of the Houdan, and as members of the American Houdan Club, and as Houdan fanciers, we should see to it that this interest is kept up and increased, and the breed made still more popular.

Your officers have all worked to this end during the past year and we believe that the members generally have supported them in their work for the Club and for the breed.

The Show season will soon be on, and there will be shows held in nearly every section of every State and in every Province of Canada. These shows provide what is perhaps the best opportunity of advertising the Houdan and bringing it to the notice of the public. If every member of this Club would only make it a point to exhibit at least one Houdan at some show, or at more than one, if at all possible, I venture to say that there would be an increase of fifty per cent. in the demand for Houdans next spring. There is nothing like publicity to make a breed well known and popular, providing it has, as is the case with the Houdan, good solid merit behind it, and one of the best ways to get this publicity is to exhibit birds as often as possible. Exhibit at your local show if you do not care to send your birds to a big one, but be sure to show Houdans somewhere.

Exhibit your birds; make people acquainted with them; let them see their beauty, then tell them about their utility qualities, and by this advertising you will make many friends for the breed, and add many new fanciers to the ranks of the Houdan enthusiasts.

This exhibiting will also prove of great value to you individually. By exhibiting your birds, putting them up alongside the work of other breeders, and getting them passed on by a qualified judge, you will find out whether you are working along the right lines, whether you are doing successful work as a breeder. Find out where your birds are weakest, and where you can make improvements. In showing, you educate yourself as well as others, help yourself as a breeder, as well as advertise the breed. When entering your birds let the Show Secretary know that you are a member of the American Houdan Club. If other members are exhibiting at the same show, Club Ribbons will probably be offered. Then when the show comes off, and your birds have been passed on, let people know that you are a member of the Club, and that the breed has a good live, up-to-date Club behind it.

Then, if it is at all possible, enter a bird, or birds, at the Show where the annual meeting of the Club is to be held. Help to make a good dis-



play there. You may be too modest by far as to the merits of your own birds, and have in your yards a bird that may bring home one of the Club Cups or Specials. Try it once.

The past year has also been noteworthy because of the cleaning-up process that has been going on. Breeders, who, it is claimed, have been guilty of unfair business methods, and who have undoubtedly hurt the Houdan fancy greatly by their practices and who have driven the beginner away from it in many cases, have been looked after by Uncle Sam's officials, so that in future there should not be so much crooked business in the Houdan fancy to disgust the lover of honest business methods, and drive him to some other breed.

During the past year, both the Secretary, Mr. Underwood, and myself have had occasion to investigate complaints as to unfair dealings, some of the complaints being against Club members, but most against people not members of the Club. We have done our best in every case to adjust matters in a satisfactory way.

In connection with this, I would say right here that it has always been, is now, and will continue to be, the policy of the American Houdan Club to live up to the following declaration of its principles: "It is a badge of reliability and strict integrity to be a member of the American Houdan Club, as its officers will exert all their influence to exclude from the list of its members any undesirable persons whose methods may be questionable."

It may be thought that I lay too much stress on this subject, as I have written on it in former Club Year Books. But it is a question that is so important that we cannot afford to lose sight of it or forget it. The success of our Club and the welfare of the breed depends in a great measure on the way that we carry on our business as breeders. Fair treatment to buyers makes friends, unfair treatment drives people away from the Houdan. Upright methods in Club affairs begets confidence in the Club and its officials. Closing our eyes to the misdeeds, and our ears to the complaints against any of our members, no matter how prominent they may be, is not only bad morally, but it is also bad business, it is bad from the dollar and cents point of view.

Therefore, as Houdan breeders and members of the American Houdan Club, let us stand firmly for a "Square Deal." If we do, we can establish the Houdan fowl on firm foundations of popularity, and have our Club one to be proud of, and one that stands for something, not merely an organization existing for the purpose of passing out Ribbons and Cups to its members.

At the last annual meeting held in Rochester, N. Y., it was voted that the President should appoint two committees. One was to select club judges. On this committee I appointed Messrs. Underwood, Billman, and Springman. Judges have been selected and their names are given in this Year Book. It is expected that the members of the Club will use their influence to have one or other of these qualified judges of the Houdan engaged to judge at any shows they may exhibit at. In many cases,

perhaps in most cases, more depends on the Judge's interpretation of the Standard and his application of it to the birds he is passing on than on the Standard itself. Hence the need of thoroughly qualified Judges, men who know the Houdan and are capable of passing on them.

The other committee was one to consider the necessity of revising the Houdan standard. On this committee I appointed Messrs. Thomas F. Rigg, Daniel P. Shove, J. A. Underwood, George Guignet, and myself. On account of being so widely separated, the committee have been unable to hold any meetings, but have consulted by letter. In considering this important question the committee have been aided by letters from different members, and by discussions in the poultry papers. Full consideration was given by the committee to the whole matter, and in the end the committee decided that they would not recommend any changes whatever to the revision committee of the American Poultry Association, believing that while the present standard may not be perfect, yet changes at the present time would so disturb things and would be likely to do as much harm as good.

The Revision Committee of the American Poultry Association will probably make some slight changes, but none of any importance. It is likely, however, that in the next edition of the *Standard* there will be a fuller color description of the Houdan.

During my two years as President of the Club my relations with the officers and members have been very pleasant, indeed. I have made many good friends, some, of course, only through correspondence, but I hope to meet them and shake hands at some future time. I thank them one and all, for their cooperation in the work of the Club and trust that they will continue to work for the Club and for more and better Houdans. To work for the purpose of making the Houdan more popular and well known for its beauty, and for its many good qualities is a labor of love to us all. Let us keep the work up and on every occasion speak a good word for the Club and for the breed, and show that we believe thoroughly in that grand old breed, the Houdan.

JAMES ABERNETHY.

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## THE IDEAL HOUDAN.

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For more than 41 years I have been breeding and loving the Houdan. I have seen the rise and fall of this really good fowl, and then have seen it again come into its own. From 1880 to 1900 it was very popular and the demand for good breeding and exhibition stock was far greater than the supply. Then came a decline in the demand. I am not going to here enter into the cause of this fall of the Houdan, for this there is to say, that it was the result of non-activity of the Houdan breeders. And yet I have never been able to supply the demand for extra choice Houdans. I want Houdan men to carefully consider this fact. It means something. It is a pointer.



The Houdan is coming into its own. There is no doubt about this. I have refrained from taking part in the very general discussion now going on as to what constitutes the ideal Houdan. I have heard this subject discussed so often and noted results that it in no way concerns me. Nor am I especially interested in what the standard of perfection calls for. There is one Houdan that always was and always will be popular with the breeders and judges. It is the large, rugged, long and deep-bodied kind. The color of the legs must be flesh; the crest must be large to very large; so, also the beard. The color must be on the dark order, and this to me is of great importance. It is the washed-out, solid white-feathered kind that has done harm to the breed as an exhibition fowl. As a utility fowl this latter kind are worthless. The best layers are the ones with the big crests, other parts being right, and the darker the plumage, the bigger the crest, as a rule. Mind, I do not want a solid black Houdan, but I do want them very dark, about 3 to 1. It is in such specimens that we find the *pure white* tips of feathers. It is in the lighter birds that we find the *grey* where it should be white.

I have always bred the kind I hereby claim as best, and I shall continue to breed that kind, for I know it is the kind of Houdan the men who *know* will always demand.

Such a Houdan is the best market fowl in all the world and a producer of a goodly number of eggs.

I have none for sale, but my heart is with the Houdan.

THOS. F. RIGG, Iowa Falls, Iowa.

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## BOOSTING THE HOUDAN.

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The following suggestions are offered in the best of faith for the advancement of the Houdan. Some of my ideas have doubtlessly been tried in the past: Others may prove impracticable or impossible. However, should anything I advance be of benefit to the interest of the Houdan Fowl and the American Houdan Club, I am satisfied.

1st. All of the usual methods should be followed, such as exhibiting birds at State Fairs and poultry shows, distributing literature with the good points of the breed described, etc. An invitation to join the American Houdan Club should be printed on all circulars and catalogues issued by individual members of the Club.

2d. I would recommend that the services of a stenographer be employed to take down a complete report of the Annual Club Meet; to record all addresses, talks on the Houdan, hints as to breeding, discussions, etc., the same to be printed in the form of proceedings of the society and to be sold to members only for a consideration that would defray expenses of printing, etc. This would be of great value to all members of the Club, especially to those who are unable to attend the annual meeting owing to other duties or distance from place of meeting.

Copies of these proceedings would also prove a drawing card in getting



new members, as the proceedings would be sold to members only, and would contain much matter valuable to all breeders of Houdans.

3d. The frequent contribution to poultry and other journals of articles on or pertaining to the Houdan, by members of the Club who are in a position to write authoritatively on the subject, the articles to be illustrated when possible by photographs of Houdans of proper type and beauty.

4th. If a special committee was formed, composed of members of the American Club, to compile and write a book on "The Houdan." I feel sure there would be a ready sale and a great demand for the same. The book to be an authoritative one on the Houdan fowl, containing chapters on the history and origin of the breed, description of breed characteristics, points on breeding, housing, care, feeding, training for the show room, etc., illustrated with numerous photographs of famous prize winners and breeders, successful fanciers and their yards or farms. This book could be compiled from the various contributions of literature and photographs from all members of the Club. A book of this kind would awaken a great deal of interest and should prove a great boon to the Houdan. The profits of sale of this book would go to the Club treasury for the purpose of still further advancing the interests of the breed. More ribbons and better cups would result.

5th. By giving a copy of this book as a premium to every member who procured, say, ten new members, would be a splendid way to secure great activity along these lines, and 500, 1000 or more members would soon be an established fact.

With such a beautiful, unique and useful breed to work on, the possibilities of achievement, back by a united Club effort, are unlimited.

If one man like Kellerstrass could assist in popularizing a breed to the point the Orpington occupies to-day, think what a persistent working, united Club can accomplish along these lines, backed by method, system and brains.

If any of the above suggestions meet with favor by the majority of the members of the Club, I will gladly do all in my power to contribute my share of the work.

Here's to the best all-around fowl in the world to-day—the Houdan. Here's to a mighty army of boosters for the future.

H. E. DUNNE, M. D.

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## THE HOUDAN.

By JOHN A. GOUGH,

*Sec'y and Treas. Crested Fowl Breeders' Association, America.*

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Of all the many breeds of the domestic fowl in existence there is not a single variety that can equal the grand old Houdan in the three great essentials so necessary to form the ideal specimen—these, as represented in this wonderful breed are: beauty, egg productiveness, and table qualifications. As to their beauty, they are particularly unique in color; there

is not in existence any other variety having this peculiarity of greenish-black, with dashes of white, or as better expressed in the words of the Hon. Chet L. Dean, a well known fancier, "I like those that look like a black fowl that has been caught in a snow storm." As layers and producers of large white eggs they easily rank among the headliners, as table fowl their flesh is rich, tender, and the small bone formation make them ideal, in fact, they have no equal. Although originally brought to a state of perfection in sunny France they are impervious to cold and one of the chief characteristics in their favor is their utter abstinence from the bane of the poultry fancier in a cold climate—the frozen comb. This latter feature has been promotive of much discussion among fanciers, the genuine French Houdan having a leaf formation of comb, this being adhered to upon the introduction of the breed into England, but America had a tendency to object and discard this particular feature from the very first. At the same time this change, coupled with a desire for less white in the plumage, has brought with it defects little dreamed of, I believe, by its progenitors. Let us consider from a common sense standpoint the origin of the breed, in spite of the fact that many writers on this subject both local and foreign, among whom, I may mention Verry, of England, and Petersen, of America, have endeavored to prove, with no success, on account of their utter inability to offer for consideration any authentic information, in fact, most of their statements are easily proved erroneous upon a resume of the real facts. That the Houdan is a composite of the crested and non-crested varieties is absolutely ridiculous, for if they were, any breeder could, by making the crosses recommended, produce Houdans very easily. Any person believing that a cross of the Poland with the Dorking is their origin, should try it at once, and no matter how hard he works he will find he will only produce mongrel Polish and Dorkings, and will have the time of his life trying to trace even a meagre resemblance to a Houdan. Man proposes, but God disposes, and God and Nature are one and the same. Man is finite, and Nature infinite. Take any variety of fowls and let them interbreed with other varieties and they will all retrograde into the original progenitory. Without any doubt the Houdan, the Crevecoeur, the La Fleche, the Poland, and the Sultan are nothing more or less than different breeds, all from one common ancestor.

Where this common ancestor was conceived may some day come to light, but I think it may be traced from Asiatic Russia. From here it was introduced into Europe, and each country bred for their own particular conception of what constituted their own personal idea of the perfect fowl. This fowl is very common in Asiatic Siberia, even to-day, where it is called the Pavloff. From Russia it was introduced into Belgium, becoming the Brabant; into Italy, becoming the Polverara; into Holland, where the name of Pavloff became Poland or Polish; from Italy it may be traced through Spain to France, where it was bred in several districts, the natives of which, breeding once more for their own particular conception, and each of these became locally known by the



name of the town most proficient in their amelioration. Thus were produced the Houdan in the department of Seine-et-Oise; the Crevecœur in Normandy, in the northern and central districts, and the La Fleche in the southern districts on and near the Spanish borders. The idea that the Houdan is composed of a Polish cross with the Dorking for size and weight is an erroneous fantasy, as it is quite possible to produce Polands fully as heavy as the weights demanded by the Ideal Houdan very easily. On the other hand the introduction of the Dorking blood will always carry its color. That this breed has been crossed with the Houdan by both experimental or ignorant breeders is a well known fact, the idea generally being, however, to produce the Dorking shape more than weight. The change of the comb and color have also allowed the introduction of Crevecœur or La Fleche blood, which has really caused a deterioration in the quality, to a certain extent, of a great many American Houdan strains, in spite of many arguments to the contrary. The writer favors a little more white in the plumage than generally demanded by the jurisdiction of the American Standard of Perfection. "Murder will out," says the old proverb, and just so surely the introduction of mongrelized blood into any representative member of the pure blooded fowl will reveal itself in the resultant progeny. The crossing of two old established breeds can never be other than a retrograde movement for the first few generations, and in a great many instances this retrogression becomes so great that there is no restitution possible, and the investigator discovers too late that he has only succeeded in despoiling that that was really good and of value.

The Houdan fowl has been bred and raised as previously stated for several centuries in the department, Seine-et-Oise, by the peasantry of that district. They are particularly esteemed and sought after for the Paris markets, the "Pouland de Houdan" always bringing the very best prices. It must be admitted that the French have a special way of fattening and preparing their poultry for the table, and perhaps this preparation may have considerable to do with the appearance as well as the tenderness of the flesh when served. At the same time the Houdan has one point that particularly calls for attention, and that is the smallness of its bones, which, combined with the fineness of the flesh, makes the breed the really excellent table fowl it is. In addition to this the Houdan is of really wonderful precocity and fertility, and it is claimed that with the pure blooded cockerel it is not necessary to caponize to have them grow fat and to acquire exceptional weight. In this particular the Houdan is exceptional, as in all varieties of poultry there is not a single breed where the two sexes approach so nearly the same weight. The pullets are generally exceedingly precocious and lay an abundance of the large white eggs, characteristics of the breed. They are always good winter layers, and constitute the genuine conception of the "Ideal Farmer's Fowl." They are easier to breed true to standard ideals of the fancy than any of the non-crested varieties of domestic fowl. They are much less inclined to forage and roam than any of them also. Being non-sitters, it follows quite



naturally that they should be prolonged and abundant layers. The prospective poultryman can make no mistake when in search of the best variety of fowl to breed, if he takes up the production of the Houdan fowl. They are extremely hardy and seem to be particularly well fitted by Nature for reproduction in any and every clime.

Taking its numerous economic qualifications into full consideration, it is not beyond reason to assume that as soon as the American Poultry producers wake up to the fact of the possibilities, now practically unrecognized by them in the cultivation of the Houdan breed, the popularity of the Grand Old Houdan Fowl will exceed that of any breed ever recognized in this country. As the American Standard calls for the V or Crevecoeur formation of comb, it might be well to consider the fact that in the personal opinion of English expert breeders then favor this characteristic in fowls intended for purely utilitarian purposes. My ideal Houdan cock should have a good solid body, slightly rounded and firmly carried on stout and rather thick legs and feet; his head should be smart, with a bright, full, clear eye of sparkling red; the beak of moderate size and of Poland type, and color a dark brown; the ear lobes should be entirely concealed in crest, beard, and muff; wattles small, well rounded at bottom; comb V, but not too large, in fact, I prefer a small one, more leaf formation, as I believe this to be one of the fundamental characterizations of the Houdan breed; crest of medium size, as I am always suspicious of an infusion of Crevecoeur blood in the large-crested specimens, particularly if coupled with very dark color. This crest should fit well on the crown of the head, but not fall too far down on the back of the neck, composed of the feathers the same in formation as those in the hackle. I want these to be black with small white tips scattered through it promiscuously; the whiskers or muffling standing well out, forming a perfect connection between the crest and the beard; the neck should be well arched, of medium length, and abundantly furnished with feathers; a good broad back, gradually narrowing towards the tail with an abundance of good long saddle feathers; wings of medium size, but carried tight to the body; breast, full, retundant and broad; tail should be carried at a good upright angle and furnished with big sweeping sickles, and though they are almost invariably one white and one black by demand, I would personally prefer to see them black with the white tipping; thighs should be of medium length, good and large; shanks medium; five toes on each foot, straight except the fifth, which should curve upwards. Though pinky white is allowable, I prefer a good lead and black color mixed. The plumage should be a good glossy greenish-black, splashed evenly with the white tips. The more evenly these white dabs are distributed the better, in my opinion, the quality of the breeding. They should be upright and proud in carriage, full of animation. Such a fowl, as here described, would be the ideal of perfection, and would be positively unequalled by any breed of domestic or wild fowl in existence, in at least one of the prerogatives demanded in the constitution of a perfect specimen, and that is beauty. Although fully appreciating the truth existent in the

old saying, "Handsomeness is that handsome does," I cannot see how, in any manner, such a specimen as here described could be other than perfect in table propensities and the formation resultant in the female prerogative of excellent egg productiveness. No one of my readers can conscientiously deny that I have come very near to describing a perfect specimen of the Houdan fowl. A flock of fowls of this type would cause delight to the most indifferent breeder or dealer in domestic poultry. One of the chief elements most noticeable in the Houdan is its tameness and quietness, revealing an individuality and intelligence only exceeded in the poultry world by the marvelous little Silkie fowl. It seems as though they appreciated most fully any kindness or desire to pet them that may be exhibited at any time by the person or persons caring for them. This, they undoubtedly inherit from the close affiliation with the human kind of their ancestors. They are most particularly fitted for the demands of the small city-lot fancier desiring a few fowls for eggs and pleasure. They are just as applicable to the requisites of the farmer and doubly so to the market poultrymen raising fowls for eggs and market. After we sum them up from any point of view, for beauty, for eggs, for choice table consumption, in combination, they are unsurpassed in these requisites by any breed of fowls in the world. To any person reading these lines I will state that first raise Houdans and do not try to breed other varieties of fowl at the same time, and you will discover that you have secured the best paying and finest variety of fowl there is in existence, and what each and every breeder should do, is to join the good old American Houdan Club and in this manner help to bring to the notice of poultrymen in general as well as others in any way interested, the wonderful attributes of "M. Le Coq de Houdan."

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## HOUDANS.

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So much has been written and said about the poultry business that one would think that different departments of the work must surely be well covered, but, instead, a vast quantity of new ideas and things are easily taking the place of the old, which, one time considered great, are now only memories of the past. Visiting a number of large plants with the thousands of layers and numerous breeding pens of fancy and utility stock, one is impressed greatly at the changes that are taking place. A man with years and years of experience in all lines of the poultry business is constantly learning new ideas and more profitable ways of handling his business, as the demand and style shifts from one fancy to another and from an old breed to a new. Some of the old breeders are loath to drop their favorite breed, while others shift with the style and get the latest of the new breeds, always looking for the newest the market affords. The new breeds may be good, but how much better if the quantity could be kept to what we know are good, without making new breeds with no more worth than the old, and practically the same except for color or



perhaps the shape of the comb. I think a good motto is, "Don't try something uncertain when a certainty is easier to procure and easier to success."

Houdans stand alone with but one variety, an old breed which has stood the test, have no superiors, few if any equals, and I hope the time will come when they will be known and not just heard of. One great drawback to Houdan popularity is the fancy not working along utility lines, and this, the one great point that means success is advancing on the public until it is outdoing the fancy. Having visited the largest Houdan farm in the United States, or what is advertised as the largest, I found only the fancy and not the utility being catered to and developed, and until we make a rush for more utility value we will not benefit the Houdan, and our favorite will stay where it is to-day, among fanciers, and not kept by the thousands as they should be. It is my ambition to see Houdans successfully bred on a large scale as egg and meat producers, upholding their laying quality in the laying contests, etc., and along these lines I am slowly working, and I hope many Houdan farms will develop in the near future.

As Houdan breeders and members of the Houdan Club I must say we have been making slow progress, which is no fault of the breed; we must accept this condition as our fault, but I feel we are about to see a change in the Houdan. More new breeders started with the Houdans in the year 1913 than ever before, and I know of but one honest breeder going out of business. Now that the 1915 standard is being revised and the Houdan is going to be given more consideration we must one and all take a hand and thrash out some rock bottom description of our breed that will help them to the front, and not hold them back as though a ball and chain were attached to the leg. The crest should be limited both in size and quantity of white. The proper crest should not be more than three and one half inches in diameter, varying a trifle either way, as a fellow breeder puts it, and I agree with him. I think we are all familiar with the argument against the large crest. It is well warranted and I hope the committee will consider this point thoroughly. I have correspondence in my file from breeders who clip the crest from the laying and breeding stock, stating it is a great advantage, and I agree that the large crest is detrimental and should be limited by the standard to what has real value and not a worthless burden. The crest feathers should be tipped with white, not completely white, and a crest composed of a greater part all white feathers should disqualify the bird in both male and female. A hen, for instance, more than half white over the back, breast, wings, etc., would not be considered a show specimen, and yet a crest near one third the size of the hen's body and more than fifty per cent. white, will sometimes help win the blue, while the same color description covers the crest and body.

There is some criticism because the Houdan can be well produced as to show quality by a cross of a La Fleche male with well mottled Houdan females, and to safeguard this it is suggested that we go back to the leaf comb, and there is some good reason for this suggestion, but as progres-



sive Houdan breeders, keep away from the leaf comb. The Houdan cross will not cut much figure with the best Houdans of to-day, and many other breeds can be produced by similar methods. The most serious development and one which should be considered very seriously by all Houdan breeders is the red, white, and blue Houdans.

They should not be recognized by our club because they bear no relationship to the Houdan, and in my estimation not to be classed with such a genuine thoroughbred as the Houdan, which has stood the test for years, a landmark in poultrydom. A noted judge, in writing about the Houdan, cannot say enough about their good quality, and is also greatly surprised at past unaccountable unpopularity of the Houdan, having been pushed aside by many new breeds, not any of which are the equal of the Houdan in any respect. He suggests the thought that probably this unpopular condition may be accounted for in the fifth toe. Personally, I can see no fault in the extra toe, but as history records no popular five-toed varieties, it is a point to be considered by our committee on the revision of the Houdan standard, who have the popularity of our favorite at heart. I beg of all Houdan breeders to boost our old reliable, as all breeds must be kept moving to become great, and very few, if any, of the great breeds did not have to be boosted before their greatness was realized.

W. F. BAST.

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## HOUDANS AN EXCEPTION.

By I. H. SMITH, Sewickley, Pa.

The true fancier's ambition should be to combine in his breed or individual family the greatest number of commercial and popular characteristics of our many varieties. When he accomplishes this purpose he produces an exception which is the most valuable fowl for you.

Let us accept the classification of poultry as outlined by the United States government in their Bulletin on Varieties. You will find four general classes. The egg breeds, which are non-setters and layers of white-shelled eggs, are best illustrated by the Minorca, Leghorn and Hamburg. The utility breeds, or general purpose fowls, comprising Rocks, Dotts, Reds, Orpingtons, and similar valuable varieties, are, with the exception of the Houdan, very persistent setters and layers of brown-shelled eggs. The meat breeders, such as the heavy Brahmas, Langshans and Cochins, are similar to the utility class, for they also are persistent setters and layers of brown-shelled eggs. The last class of Oramental varieties can scarcely claim any distinction over the Houdan. Now consider the relative value of the Houdan as an exception to all varieties. The profit in poultry seems to favor the egg breeds and the production of eggs. The Leghorn, with her Mediterranean sisters and the Houdan, do not stop laying to set, and as their eggs are white-shelled they are in demand at all markets, and in many cases secure a premium, for they are uniform in color. Some do set, but I know of none that are less inclined to get broody than the Houdan or any that are capable of producing more eggs

and at less cost for, like the other white egg layers, Houdans are great foragers, energetic rustlers and light feeders. It is indeed disappointing to learn that our commercial egg breeds have their disadvantages. On account of their nervous disposition much of the energy is wasted, particularly on the range and in large houses, by their running around and quarrelsome habits, which also makes them hard-meated and poor table fowl. They are hard to confine, and by reason of their large combs and light feathering do not take kindly to cold weather, when fresh eggs bring such a premium. The extreme tameness of the Houdan, a valuable breed characteristic, seems to work more to their particular advantage than any other feature, for, in addition to their being so easily confined and well adapted to large and small flocks, they are hard to disturb, and in this way convert the wasted energy of the other non-setters into eggs and at the same time maintain flesh that rivals any fowl for quality and profit. These are not the only characteristics of economic concern, for they have an equal shape for a layer and their chalk white eggs compare quite favorably in size to those of the Minorca, which as a class is credited with laying the largest egg. It is thought by some that the length of a hen's back is in proportion to the size of her eggs. The Minorca and Houdan appear to give this rule some grounds for support, and at all events it is evident that shape has much to do with the size, quality and number of eggs.

The Houdan is the only non-setting white egg-laying variety in the utility class and, like most of the others, she appears to have more lasting qualities for eggs than the egg breeds. In fact, all things considered, I think a Houdan hen more profitable after her pullet year than any pullet in producing eggs. Size, small combs and heavy feathering appear to assist these hardy utility varieties towards a heavy winter egg yield, and in this respect Miss Houdan is extremely well favored, for her small "V" comb, often entirely covered by the attractive crest of a well-bred specimen, is a great protection. The head and face of a bird appear to be their most delicate parts, and the wattles, like combs, seem to act unfavorably, like a barometer for trouble, with changes and cold weather. The odd muffs around their faces and pendant beards covering small wattles seem to do more than balance and set off the beautiful Houdan crest to advantage. On account of their heavy feathering, unusual vigor and strength, it is not to be wondered that such fowls as the Houdan, Brahma, Langshan, Red and Orpington appear to have winter laying as a breed characteristic, which, from all reports, seems to be a fact. Although a typical cold weather fowl, they seem just as comfortable and profitable in sunny France, their native country, and by some it is thought that their crests also protect them against the excessive heat in summer, which accounts for their being so productive at all times.

The Houdan rivals the meat breeds for profit and quality in meat. Like the other popular utility varieties, their size is more commercial and suitable for one's table, the Standard weights being: Cock,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  pounds; cockerel,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  pounds; hen,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  pounds, and the pullets,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  pounds,



which are just about right for one meal, and I know of no fowl that reaches a broiler size quicker and at such a low cost. They are quite deceiving in their weight, appearing rather small at first glance, but on taking into consideration their long, broad backs, deep keels and full round breasts, affording an abundance of fine-grained choice white meat, you can readily see why they are so heavy for their size. They also have very small bones, and the French people say dress with less waste than any fowl, which is a direct contrast to the large-boned, heavy meat breeds, and, of course, it is cheaper to grow flesh than bone and decidedly more palatable. The Frenchmen may aptly be called the epicure of the world and his choice is the Houdan and crosses from it, and for this reason they are raised in France, one of the most progressive countries for poultry. Economic features are given more thought in Europe than in liberal America, but as poultry keeping is getting on a better business basis here, the low cost of growing and maintaining Houdans per head should command more attention. They mature and lay early like Leghorns, but do not become hard meat, and here we have in an old-established variety the advantages we are constantly striving for in the new breeds.

As to their beauty, this depends on the point of view, but at all events they certainly are distinctive and original on a large farm or country place, with their nodding crests, excellent shape, neat appearance and rich combination of color. There is just enough difficulty in producing a clear, glistening white mottle at the end of every fifth black feather and evenly distribute them over a beautiful green-sheened black plumage to arouse the intense interest of the fancier. Their white legs, slightly mottled with black, are rather short and they have the distinction of possessing a fifth toe, which is detached from the others and curves gently upwards. The color of their legs and their white skin may be said to be a disadvantage in our market, which has not entirely overcome the prejudice for yellow legs and skin, but the same might be said of other choice fowl, such as quail, turkeys and guineas.

It is fortunate that the Standard is severe on shape, so in most cases the vigorous clean cut show specimens are the best utility types. In fact here in America the model Houdan proves a much more attractive bird than the French Standard, particularly in size, shape and comb, without losing any of this old-fashioned French fowl's economical characteristics, which pronounce it such a valuable exception to all varieties.

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## THE HARDY HOUDAN.

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As an amateur only I want to say a word to other amateurs about how to grow Houdans. Start with good Houdans, but the little fellows are the ones to watch. As soon as they are hatched they are as active as young quail, and are the most interesting of all chickens. Always beautiful, because they are always full feathered and never have that ugly scraggly look that makes other young chickens an eyesore on the landscape.



The secret in growing the little fellows into beautiful birds lies in teaching them to live in the sky. By the time they are three weeks old a little attention will teach them to roost in the trees, and from then on I believe anyone will be assured of good Houdans.

They never get sick. Their plumage is very much improved and they easily come up to the standard weight, and, best of all, they do not seem to develop the desire to scratch in the garden that comes with confinement. Occasionally a heavy wind blows a chicken out of a tree, but I have never had one hurt.

After maturity the Houdan stands confinement well, but I am satisfied the little fellows do best without any care as soon as they can fly.

I let my Houdans lay in a wooden box, without any straw or other nest material. They get so much fun out of rolling the egg around on the floor of the nest box that they seem to enjoy spending time at the egg end of the business.

Houdans raised this way make, for me, very satisfactory friends and lay well, and will always come up and eat out of my hand.

CHARLES E. HENDRICKSON, JR.

Red Bank, N. J.

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## TO MEMBERS OF AMERICAN HOUDAN CLUB.

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As I understand it, the object of our Club is to promote and increase the breeding of the Houdan, to so concentrate our efforts that as many people as is possible may become enlightened as to the good qualities which the Houdan possesses. I believe it a safe and sane guess that the old saying, "Once a breeder, always a breeder (of Houdans,)" will come more nearly applying to the Houdan than any other breed of chickens.

If this be true, it is very plain that it is to each of our interests to make as many converts to the Houdan as we can. So let us work together; stand by our President and Secretary, assist them in any way possible, as their row is a hard one to hoe.

I believe the breeders are as nearly united on a correct standard as they are in any other breed of fowls.

We have gotten rid of bad blood, and have combined in the Houdan the three greatest qualities any breed can possess, namely, Beauty, Size, and Utility. We may each of us have some particular hobby. It may be crest; it may be color; it may be beard or something else, it makes no difference, as I believe those are peculiarities belonging to us Americans and not the Houdan, and if my hobby is comb, (V shape or none at all,) which it is, and I so completely lose sight of the balance of the bird as to have anything else but a Houdan. This is my loss and I must awaken to the fact that there is something else to the Houdan beside a comb.

So I repeat that in the main be loyal to the Club; be loyal to its officers and members; stick to the standard, whatever she may be, and when you

receive an order or inquiry, STICK TO THE TRUTH, and fill the order as honestly as you know how, and there is not a question as to the position which the Houdan will occupy in chickentown by the time another Year Book is due.

Very Respectfully,

G. G. BILLMAN.

Sullivan, Ind.

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## WHY HOUDANS ARE MONEY MAKERS.

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BY DR. W. E. ALLEN, SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

*State Vice-President of American Houdan Club.*

After years of experience with chickens, and having tried out most of the popular breeds, I find that Houdans will produce as many eggs to the amount of food consumed as any other breed, and are good winter layers of large, white eggs. Fertility almost always runs high, and chicks are easily grown, making broilers at perhaps as low cost as any breed.

Beauties? Well, I guess yes. To me there is no other breed so pretty and attractive as a lot of thoroughbred Houdans. They are active, alert, and always on the job, and my birds never fail to win the blue.

A description of one of my houses might be of interest. The one referred to is about 100 feet long by 15 feet deep, and is open front. The back is 5 feet high and the front is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet, with a flat, pitched roof. This house is divided into ten (10) breeding pens, and at the divisions of the pens is a hopper for dry mash, grit, charcoal, and shell, and a drinking vessel for water; one hopper and one drinking vessel doing for two pens, for the chickens can reach them from either side.

Dropping boards are in the back, and for the roosts I use 2x3 inch boards, and in the center of the widest part I have a groove to hold insect destroyer. Under the dropping boards are nailed the nests. The bottom of these nests, instead of being solid, are made of ordinary chicken wire, over which are placed pieces of burlap, which may be taken out at intervals and disinfected, and renewed when necessary.

The lower part of my house has flooring, about three-fourths of which is divided off into a scratch pen, where the chickens are fed the grain in deep straw, while the front part of the house contains sand, which seems to supply the necessary grit, and they also dust themselves in it.

This seems to make an ideal home for our Houdans in Southern California, for they thrive and do well under such conditions and do not fail to shell out the eggs. Houdans for me first, last, and all the time, for they are the real money makers.

## THE HOUDAN AS A UTILITY FOWL.

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When I started with hens I had Barred Rocks and Rhode Island Reds. While they filled the bill in the egg and table line, to me, they were uninteresting to care for—they lacked individuality. Therefore I decided to try some breed that would suit me better.

I had been reading some interesting articles in the *American Stock Keeper* about the different varieties of crested fowl, written by John A. Gough. His description of the Houdans appealed to me most, so I wrote him about them. He answered me and told me where I could get good birds. I bought a pen and found they were just what I wanted. They had the individuality that the other birds lacked and I liked them from the start. They are easy to handle and make attractive pets. That alone is a strong point in their favor with women fanciers. They are said to be non-setters, but I had two hens that wanted to set last spring. I set them out of curiosity to see what they would do. They both had good hatches and were the best of mothers.

Houdans are good consistent layers all the year round and their eggs compare favorably in size with those of the Leghorns. One of my customers wrote me that they were the only *utility* bird that laid a white egg that didn't belong to the Leghorn family. They are very busy birds and don't cluster around the gate, waiting for something to turn up, as so many breeds do. They are delicious table fowl—trust the French people for that. The chicks are most attractive. When they are first hatched they are black and yellow and look like blueberry cake. They have a tiny crest too. They feather quickly and mature early. They are light, not delicate, feeders. They have so little comb and wattles that they are practically frost proof. Take them all in all, day in and day out, the Houdan is a mighty satisfactory bird to breed.

MRS. R. W. WILLIAMS, Medfield, Mass.

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## FAILURE AND SUCCESS IN HOUDAN RAISING.

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If it were not for the certainty of failure there would and could be no hope of success. Because the Houdans are imperfect, but susceptible to improvement, it is possible to make one's efforts avail in the improvement. Every Houdan, measured by an absolute standard, is a failure, more or less. The Houdan, compared with the standard of perfection, are all failures. Not one of them score one hundred points. We may find a few that score ninety-five, but very many score ninety-three, and as the score decreases the number increases.

The Houdan breeder of to-day, measured by the standard of his ideals, and ever measured by the lower standard of his expectations, falls short. But this should be no discouragement, because his aims have been high.



That every Houdan breeder who improves his stock in any singular particular, either in beauty or utility, is a success. To have such aims, and to realize them, if only in part, is, I think, a pronounced kind of success, and the efforts put forth are worthy of commendation.

There are so many ways in which the Houdan may be improved that afford an unlimited field for attaining success. Quality and quantity of flesh, perfection of shape, size and color, hardiness, and egg production. These, with other characteristics, invite the efforts of every Houdan breeder to make improvements in his flock.

The success of any business undertaking depends upon the manner in which the enterprise is launched. The foundation must be carefully laid.

To have success we must have high vitality—life and health, in abundance—no matter whether birds are bred for flesh, eggs or show purposes. If the old adage is true, "like begets like," we must then be very careful in our selection of the birds that go to make up our breeding pens, whether or not our high aims shall be realized.

We should not forget the fact that where one has standard bred Houdans considerable pleasure is to be had in exhibiting them, and it is almost necessary that we exhibit our birds if we are to get the full benefit of keeping high grade stock. We will then have a chance to compare our birds with the other fellows, and the opportunity to dispose of some of our surplus stock, which will more than pay us for our trouble, if one considers it a trouble to prepare our stock for the show room. I will say here that the show room has been, and will be, one of the main factors in promoting the welfare of the Houdan and bringing them to the front more and more each year.

A great amount of our success as Houdan breeders depends upon our treatment of our fellow breeders. It should be the aim of every progressive breeder to eliminate the lowest grades; to permit no mercenary motives to interfere with the development of the grand old bird along the highest lines.

WALTER L. HOOD, South Williamsport, Penna.

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## SELECTING THE BREED.

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The beginner in this interesting, fascinating, and profitable thoroughbred poultry business is generally puzzled when it comes to selecting the breed that he or she is to adopt, and it is not at all surprising, because there are so many breeds and varieties and it seems as though every breeder, regardless of what he or she is breeding, has the very best. The fact remains, however, that there is no best breed. Some breeds are better in some ways than others are, but no one certain breed excels in everything. In most localities, large white eggs are always in demand at top prices. Now ask the puzzled one to name over the white egg breeds and try to find one which has a higher quality of flesh than the Houdan. No breed excels the Houdan in this respect, regardless of the color of the eggs

they lay. Always impress this one fact, that the Houdan is a meat breed. The writer has had visitors looking over his plant and the remark they sometimes made was, "My, but they are odd and pretty, but I don't suppose they are very good to eat." The writer never speaks of the beauty of the Houdan to these visitors. Their beauty speaks for itself. It is their utility qualities that is of the most importance. Many people look upon the Houdan as a fancy chicken, bred for its peculiarities and exhibition purposes only, and, to the writer's belief, is the chief reason why the Houdan is not more popular. The puzzled one should always be reminded that the Houdan is by no means a small breed. Many people class the Houdan with the Leghorn in weight, but when a full grown Houdan is given them to handle they are very agreeably surprised to find the Houdan much heavier. It should be easy for us Houdan breeders to explain that the Houdan has the three most desirable features. The kind of an egg that is gaining in popularity; the meat that is unsurpassed by any breed and the size of the fowl itself, being medium, not large and not small. We must always bear in mind that the Houdan is a meat breed—a white egg meat breed; a good sized meat breed; a non-setting meat breed.

FRED A. FINDER, Box 4, Champaign, Ill.

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## A LITTLE LOVE STORY.

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Violet was sick and nobody cared, or it looked that way.

She stood very quiet in one corner and the beautiful head drooped very slightly forward, but no one cared.

Her owner came into the hen house after awhile. Violet looked up and went over to her owner. She surely thought this meant help had come, for when things went wrong this person always set them right.

Perhaps she fell to thinking of that day last summer when the water got tipped over. The heat was fearful and for hours there was no water. The heat grew more and more intense and everybody went and looked into the water pan, but still no water. But bye and bye that person who seemed to always set things right was heard coming. Everybody scampered to the yard gate, and sure enough this person set the accident right and soon each pretty crest was gaily nodding back and forth as the water ran down the scorched throats with every dip of the bill. Goodness, it tasted as good as ice cream on a hot afternoon! And then everybody began to talk, for a petted Houdan makes a delightful pet and easily learns to talk back to her owner in her own bird fashion. Softly the words, "Quork!, quork!" then a pause, then fast came the "Quork! quork! quork! quork!" from the little throats, as they, having finished drinking, gathered around this wonderful person who always set things right.

But now Violet was sick and came over to her owner, who had noticed the drooping head in the corner.

"How's my chicky-chick," says the owner, and Violet brightened up and so the owner thought nothing serious the matter and went on gathering up the eggs and left in a hurry to attend to other business.

Captain Grace was there. Captain Grace felt her importance, for she had won a ribbon at the show the last winter. She (like some of the others) indulged sometimes in pulling the top knots of her sisters. Nothing very loving there, surely.

It was getting late. It was getting dark. It was bedtime, but no one came, as was usual, to count the birdies and lock them up for the night.

It was getting cold. It was getting more and more dark. The wind blew and it was getting colder yet. Violet lay in a corner of the yard; the glorious crest lay in the dirt; she could not move.

She thought of the warm roost inside the hen house, but she could not go. Her eyes closed. Once in a while she felt something stir beside her. Once in a while she would feel a warmth not her own there on one side.

Was she going to die, perhaps, and her owner had told her she should go to the show this winter because she was so pretty, but indigestion kills birdies sometimes as well as people.

It was 8 o'clock now and too dark to find the way to that warmly sheltered roost, even if one could go. The wind grew stronger, but on one side Violet was warm and no wind touched her. Someone cared, surely. Someone could pull top knots when biddies were well, but they could be sorry, too, when biddies got too sick to go to bed.

There! What was that? A step on the walk, a turn of the key! That person who sets things right was in the henhouse and the biddies were being counted. "One—two—three," and so on—two missing—again the the count, yes, two were missing. Strange! Who is it that's gone? Here's Daisy and Jack and Rose. Oh, Violet—yes, Violet did act a little sick that afternoon.

A flash of a lantern is in the hen yard. It shines into the corner where lay Violet with closed eyes and chilled feet, but tight to her side crouched Captain. Somebody did care. She did have love in her heart.

Violet got well.

Captain Grace, your're a brick.

THOMAS E. RAY.

P. S.—The above is a true story, and it does seem that the Houdan is more intelligent than any other fowl I have ever seen.



## WOULD I TELL YOU?

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1.

Do you hear that joyful song ?  
Tis the hen that wears the bonnet.  
The snow comes fluttering down  
As I sit and write this sonnet.

2.

Why so happy, biddie,  
This cold and wintery morn ?  
You'll split your throat with singing.  
As sure as you are born.

3.

Look inside the nest, sir,  
Look inside and see;  
And our little Frenchy Lady  
Struts around in glee.

4.

I looked inside the nest, sir,  
As the snow came fluttering down;  
A newly made up nest,  
And five new white eggs I found.

5.

She gave her tail a shake,  
She came and looked in too,  
And as she groomed her feathers  
She said—Would I tell you ?

6.

Would I tell you and others,  
That Houdan biddies lay ?  
They lay more eggs when older  
Than other biddies do.

7.

Tell them I'm three years old and over,  
But every year 'tis true,  
That I begin in December,  
And lay all the winter thro.

—THOMAS E. RAY.

## THE HOUDAN—A SUCCESS.

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The Houdan is certainly becoming more popular as each year goes by, and to-day they are one of the leading fowl. Not only do they excel as the fancier's favorite, but are also one of the best utility fowls known. With good care they will begin to lay when they are six months old, and if given an egg producing food, with plenty of fresh air and sunshine, and a good clean house, will lay throughout the whole year, producing nearly as many eggs in the winter as in summer. Special prices can always be secured for their snow white, clean looking eggs, so large and always the same color. For table use, as roasters and broilers, they certainly have no rivals. All things considered, I do not believe there is a better variety than the Houdan for an all around general purpose fowl, and anyone wishing a variety which is profitable, as well as beautiful, I would certainly say to them, take the Houdan.

MINNIE BLAGDEN, Rowley, Mass.

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## THE HOUDAN.

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Having raised the Houdan for a number of years I have found it to be a breed that stands in a class by itself from all other breeds. I say it stands in a class aside from other breeds for three reasons. They are as follows: (1) It's laying ten to eleven months out of the year, and the eggs surpass all others for size and richness. (2) The Houdan makes an excellent bird for the table, its breast meat being unequaled. (3) In the show room it is a very attractive and a graceful bird.

As a breeder of Houdans I am very much pleased with the growth of the Houdan in the last year throughout the country. Let us hope that the Houdan will continue its growth in the future as it has in the recent past.

HIRAM W. PRESTON, Pride's Crossing, Mass.

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## DOWN IN TEXAS—WHY I BECAME A HOUDAN BREEDER.

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It was a good many years ago and I was quite a chap of a boy and a White Leghorn breeder at that time. I had my standard of perfection and I studied it as hard as I did my school books, in fact I took it to school with me, and at recess time I was studying it while the other boys were playing, and was considered the best posted poultry boy in Warren, Jo Davis Co., Illinois, my native State.

Now at that time the winters were very cold, 20° and 30° below zero, and those Leghorns would just shell out the eggs in the summer, when

they were worth 10 cents a dozen, and would stop laying in October and would not lay enough eggs to settle our coffee the balance of the winter and father was getting mighty tired of buying feed for me. We fed everything you could think of. We always had plenty of cabbages and they got their cut up cabbage every day, and meat twice a week ; still no eggs. But one of our neighbors a block away, an old Irish woman, had some old speckled up hens, with top-nots, and some of them were hobbled. I told her, in my boyish way, that we did not have to tie our chickens' legs together to keep them from scratching our neighbors' gardens up. My, she got mad, and told me , "I'll be selling your old dad eggs again this winter, and he will have to pay me 50c. a dozen too ;" and she did, too, that very winter. Now that was too much for father. He made me sell off those Leghorns, all but two Buff Cochins ; he said, " we will keep them to do the setting and I'll get two settings of eggs from old Mrs. Ford. Those speckled chickens, they are not as nice looking, but they will lay eggs in the winter." She always got 15c. a dozen for them in the summer, because they were larger than the Leghorns. When spring came we sent over to get one setting, but she would not sell any to us. She said, "I am the only one in town that has them and I do not want anybody else in town to have them either." Well, that made father madder than ever, so he got a woman from the other part of the town to go there and admire them, and find out, if possible, where she got them. The trick worked, and she told her that she got her start from Dr. James Rigg, of Dubuque, Iowa.

Now Dubuque was only 43 miles from our town. So father wrote and asked Mr. Rigg what he would take for a setting of those speckled Houdan eggs. Next day he got an answer, and he said, "\$3.00 for 13 and you pay the express. Father thought that was an outrageous price, but he was still mad, and I remember very well the words he used. "I'll have them anyway, if they cost me \$10.00," and he got them too. The setting hatched out 9 chicks and we succeeded in raising 8. In the meantime the other hen went broody and he sent and got a setting for her. She hatched out 10 and we raised 7. I had 8 pullets and 7 cockerels, five of the latter having V combs. We ate the five cockerels with the V combs and kept the two that had the leaf combs. The V was the prettiest, but my standard said leaf.

Now this was in the spring of 1874, 39 years ago. A long time, isn't it?

I love my Houdans to-day better than I ever did. If you could see those five hens and six pullets that I have mated up this year with the grandest cockerel I have ever raised, everyone a show bird.

January, 1875, about the middle of the month, as near as I can remember, we had our show at Warren, B. F. Price, Judge. I had a cockerel and two pullets there, one with a leaf comb, and the other, with a V. She was so near perfect, except the comb, I could not help but send her, and what do you think ?—I got first on cockerel, score, 92 ; leaf comb pullet, 89, and the prettiest and best of all, V comb, was disqualified. Her crest



was as round as a snowball flower, as I can see her to-day. In my mind, she was the prettiest Houdan pullet I ever saw.

A man from Wisconsin asked me what would I take for her. I told him I would ask Father. Father says, "What did he offer you?" "I'll go and see." Up to the show I went. I says, "What will you give?" He says "It is not a very good Houdan, but I will give you \$2." Off I went and told Father. To tell the truth it pretty nearly knocked him down when I told him. He says, "Are you sure?" I says "Yes, sir. He says \$2," and he says, "Hurry back and take it before he backs out." When I came back and showed him the money he says, "That's more money than you ever made on Leghorns in all your life." Now, those Houdans laid all winter, and as long as I was at home we never bought any more eggs in winter, but we lost a neighbor in Mrs. Ford, for she never would speak to us after that.

Are Houdans a good fowl? If they were not I would not stick to them for these 39 years. I have been married 25 years and Houdans have kept us in eggs, winter and summer, all that time, and I cannot recall the time when I had to buy eggs.

Are Houdans pretty? There are no fowls as pretty as a well bred Houdan as we are breeding them now. They are not only layers, but when it comes to dressing, no fowl will dress out prettier than they will. Long body, plump breast and white skin, and they are different from all others, the fat is so evenly distributed all over them. You do not find a big chunk here and there. It is so evenly distributed that they make the finest kind of roasters. They are hardy in hot weather as well as cold and can stand any climate. I have raised them in the North and South and they do equally as well.

CHET L. DEAN, 215 Mills St., El Paso, Texas.

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## WHY I BREED HOUDANS.

BY JUDGE DANIEL P. SHOVE.

Why I have bred Houdans so many years is that they are one of the best breeds that we had thirty-one years ago as well as of to-day.

They are good layers, very fine for the table, and where will you find any better looking birds in all of our exhibitions than the Houdans?

They always draw attention with their fine large crests, beautiful plumage and appearance.

They are non-sitters, mature very quickly, and consume less food than most other breeds. They live to be seven and eight years of age, and the hens are good layers at three to six years old. The demand for good Houdans is growing larger every year, and good marked ones are selling for the high dollar. If anyone is looking for some good fowls for the city lot or the country, try the Houdans.

Fall River, Mass.

September 10, 1913.

## HOUDANS—THE COMBINATION BREED.

By H. E. DUNNE, M. D., Ridgway, Pa.

*State Vice-President American Houdan Club.*

The combination of utility and fancy is the claim advanced for this beautiful French fowl, and this claim can easily be verified by the rapidly increasing number of poultrymen and fanciers that have bred these birds long enough to really know and understand their many splendid points of excellence.

Houdans easily substantiate the claim as one of the most beautiful, if not the most beautiful, of all breeds of poultry. Understand, I am not making reference to the short-backed, washed-out, tiny-crested, Bantam type of Houdan frequently seen. These are usually late hatched, poorly fed specimens of questionable strain. I am speaking of the Houdan as it should be—the large, long bodied, low Dorking type, with good sized, heavily feathered crest, free from “wildness,” as found in the Polish crest. The Ideal Houdan is a very deep-breasted bird, which, with the other characteristics mentioned, gives us a bird of strong yet graceful lines.

The color of plumage is equally important. The Standard calls for glossy black, with about every fifth feather tipped with white, and these white-tipped feathers to be equally distributed. The white tips should be pure white; a smoky white or a grayish white is undesirable. The undercolor of Houdans is seldom mentioned, yet it is of considerable importance. A very dark bird may have a very light undercolor; in some cases the undercolor may even be white in certain sections. This fact is of considerable importance in the breeding pen, for a dark male with a light undercolor will throw chicks considerably lighter in color than anticipated.

Purple and straw color are defects that must be guarded against. Lack of shade, crowding, improper feeding, injury to feathers while growing, too much purple in the breeding stock, are all possible causes.

The crest of the Houdan is a most important section. It should be large, but not so large as to obscure the sight. The ideal crest is heavily feathered; free from forward or wild feathers, and black in color, with about every fifth feather tipped with pure white.

The Houdan is a combination of everything that is good. They are not only good to look at, but good to lay, good to eat; they make great pets, and are very tame; they take the greatest interest in and liking to their keepers. A little kindness, and a Houdan is your friend forever. They will follow you around, pull at your clothes, pick at your shoestrings, and fly up on your shoulders with the greatest confidence. To my mind they exhibit a higher grade of intelligence than other members of the feathered tribe; but then I suppose it is personal preference, and a decided bias in favor of the Houdan. There is one thing you will notice, when a man



breeds Houdans you very seldom hear of his letting them go. Once a Houdan breeder, always a Houdan breeder. WHY? There's a reason. The combination fowl! All that is beautiful. All that is useful. Here are a few of their points: Quick maturing; early layers; good winter layers, owing to their frost-proof qualities, being very heavily feathered; small of comb, which is well protected by the crest, and the wattles, by beard and muffs. They shell out the eggs, while other breeds, with frosted combs, are so busy fighting the cold that they haven't time to think of laying. Houdans are prolific layers of large white eggs. The only fowl having the unique combination of medium size, flesh of excellent quality, layers of large white eggs, and classified among the best layers. True, the Houdan hasn't shown up well in the egg laying contests so far, but that is equally true of other good breeds. The Houdan has usually been represented in these contests by a single entry, while the Leghorns, Wyandottes, and Reds, etc., make up large classes. Then, again, the same uniform system of feeding is not suitable to all breeds of poultry. In my opinion, the only fair test for egg laying competition is to feed and care for each variety according to the requirements laid down by the Specialty Club for that particular variety. Breeders of the various breeds of poultry know that each variety requires careful study and care to get the best out of them. While one variety can stand heavy feeding, it would be fatal to another. Houdans fatten easily and do best when fed lightly and kept busy. In my experience if you keep food before them all the time the egg yield falls. But because of this very fact of their doing best on light feeding, one can readily see the economical qualities of the breed, and, perhaps that is why the frugal French people have made the Houdan their bird of choice.

The Houdans are non-setters; do well in close confinement or on free range. They are great foragers, and seldom stop for grain or mash when given the freedom of the woods and fields. They are after the early worm and the luscious grasshopper, and they are on the job every minute, except when on the roost at night or laying those large white eggs.

A four-foot fence will confine them. Here again economy in chicken wire to the suburban fancier or back-lotter. But when it comes to the finish, the final roast product, then the Houdan has them all beaten again. Their meat is rich, tender, juicy and fine grained; fat is laid up in little streaks through the lean, never piled up under the skin like a "Rock;" as much breast meat as a pheasant, and very little waste, owing to unusually small bones.

Surely, the Houdan is a combination of all that's good in poultrydom. The United States Department of Agriculture classifies the Houdan as a Utility Fowl, and Uncle Sam knows. Fancy and self-beauty are self-evident. Well, then, there's your combination! Can you beat it? What are you going to do about it?



## THE HOUDAN IN SUNNY KANSAS.

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Houdans are gaining ground very fast in Kansas. Why shouldn't they? They are just the fowl for the farmer, as they are great hustlers when on free range. Also a good fowl for city, as they are easily kept in a four and one-half foot fence and seemed to be very satisfied. Owing to their beauty they are a good fowl for the fancier. As for table use they can not be excelled. As to the quantity of meat they retain I believe they carry more breast meat than any other fowl.

They are good layers and lay very large eggs, pure white in color. Why shouldn't they be good layers? Never take time to set, consequently they put their time in laying.

A healthier fowl I don't believe lives. They do not catch all the different diseases that chickens are subject to. I have never had any signs of the roup in my flock in all the years of my breeding. Last year I had two cases of the roup in the very worst stage in my black Langshan flock. For an experiment I took a Houdan cock and hen and put in the same coop with the two black Langshan hens that had the roup and kept them penned together for three weeks and it had no effect on the Houdans. I am almost confident they will not take the disease.

I find the sudden changes, such as we have during the winter months, has no effect upon the egg yield, owing to the heavy coat of feathers that lay very close to their body, and also their comb being partly hidden by their crests is not very easily frozen.

To a beginner, or those who contemplate taking up a new breed, I would say you will make no mistake in taking up the Houdan. The breed is having a healthy boom and the interest in it is still increasing. I judge this from the amount of business I had last year, 1912.

E. D. HARTZELL, Rossville, Kas.

A few lines on the Houdan,  
In Kansas far to the west.  
It's just the breed to depend on,  
Her laying record the best.

The splendid large eggs so white  
They lay each day of the week,  
And never set day or night;  
They are best of fowls to eat.

The Houdan is a magnificent looker,  
The one who sure does pay,  
And means most in the cooker,  
For they certainly do weigh.

So try the best breed in the land,  
I tell you its worth your while;  
They weigh, lay, and pay to beat the band,  
And results will make you smile.

MRS. E. D. HARTZELL.

# FINDER'S "COMBINATION" HOUDANS

Are Carefully Bred to Combine  
BEAUTY AND UTILITY.  
Booklet and Winnings Free.

FRED A. FINDER, Box 4, CHAMPAIGN,  
ILLINOIS.

---

THIS ADVERTISEMENT  
TELLS ABOUT A

## WATERING DEVICE

Which can be used for all breeds of chickens,  
but is especially made to meet the requirements  
of the Crested and Bearded varieties.

The maker guarantees dry and fluffy Crests and Beards, both winter and summer. It has been thoroughly tested in the maker's Houdan yards, and has been on the market for about 2 years. This is exactly what every Houdan breeder has been looking for, and you should find out about it.

Write to—

FRED A. FINDER,  
Box 4, Champaign, Ill.

# HAVE YOU TRIED BEADLES HOUDANS? If Not, Why Not?

**This is a sample of our Houdans. We always give our customers a square deal, for we want everyone satisfied.**

1st Cockerel 3rd Hen, Chicago, 1910.

1st Cock, 1st Pullet, 1st Pen, Chicago, 1911.

1st Cock, 1st and 2nd Hen, 1st and 2nd Pullet, 1st Pen, Detroit, 1912.

1st Cock, 3rd and 4th Hen, 1st and 3rd Cockerel, 1st 2nd, and 4th  
Pullet, 1st and 3d Pen, Chicago, 1912.



**“Champ.”**

1st Cockerel, Chicago, 1910.

1st Cock, Chicago, 1911.

1st Cock, Chicago, 1912.

1st Cock, Detroit, 1912.

**WILL M. BEADLE,**  
**MARCELLUS, MICHIGAN.**

**State Vice-President American Houdan Club.**



# PRIZE WINNING HOUDANS AND ANCONAS

---

(The Best Breeds to lay, win and pay.)

HOUDANS won 1st on Breeding pen, 1st on Cockerel, 1st and 2nd on Pullets. (Jan Show).

Shape Special, 1st and 2nd in Pullets.

Shape Special, 1st Cockerel, Aug. Show).

(SAN DIEGO SHOWS)

---

My Anconas won 1st and 2nd on Breeding Pens,  
2nd on Cockerel, 4th and 5th on Pullets,  
(January Show).

SILVER CUP FOR BEST ANCONAS IN  
SHOW.

Shape Special, 1st 2nd, 3rd, and 5th on Pullets,  
(Aug. Show).  
(SAN DIEGO SHOWS.)

**DR. W. E. ALLEN,**

State Vice-President American Houdan Club,

**3410 Redwood St.,**

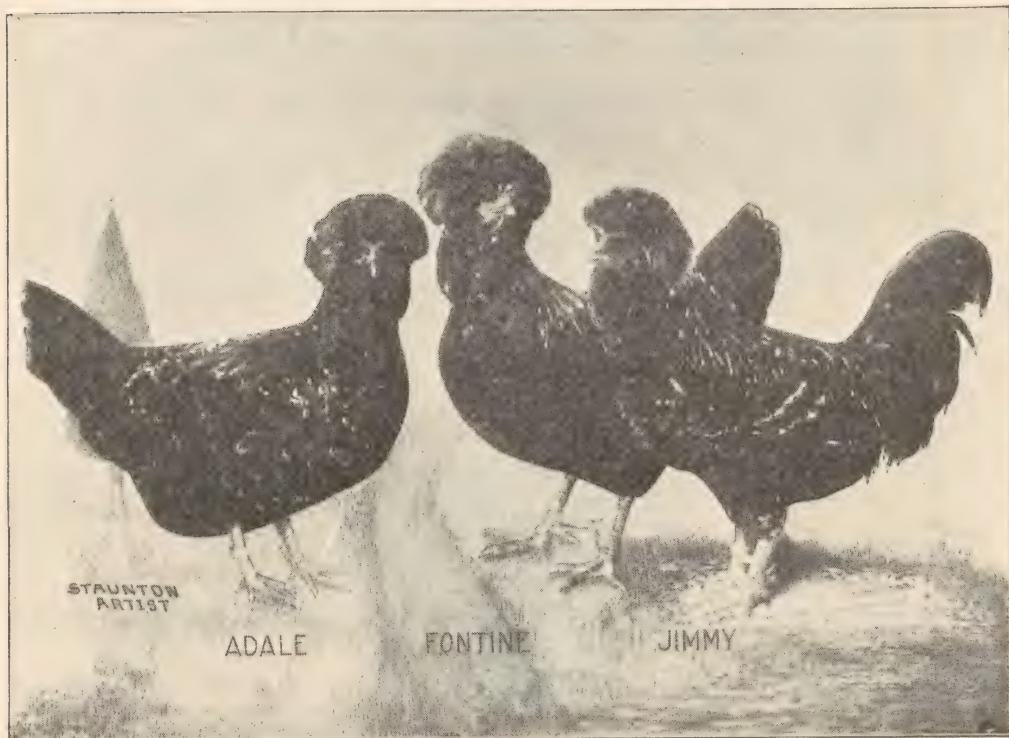
**Office, American National Bank Bldg.**

Sunset Main 2832  
Sunset Main 4400

**SAN DIEGO, CAL.**

# METZLER'S HOUDANS

are just as good as they look, and  
we think they are real beauties.



After many years of painstaking labor, seemingly cruel and expensive culling, we have succeeded in producing a strain of Houdans that are very nearly up to our high ideal of the

## Beautiful Houdan,

while retaining the wonderfully productive Houdan. We feel that our winnings in the leading shows since 1910 bear us out in this statement. Our birds have won the lion's share of blue ribbons, and nearly all crest, color, and shape specials offered at these shows.

**J. L. Metzler,       -       =       =       =       Findlay, Ohio**

(Read Our Evidence on Opposite Page.)

# Just a Bit of Evidence.

Cleveland Fanciers' Club, 1910.      Cleveland Fanciers' Club, 1911.

2nd Cock,

1st Hen,

2nd Pen.

1st Cock,

1st and 2nd Hen,

1st Cockerel,

1st and 2nd Pullet,

1st Pen, old.

All color, crest, and shape specials, also two beautiful cups offered by the Association and the American Houdan Club for best display.

Rochester, N. Y., 1913, in a class of 158 Houdans, shown by fourteen representative breeders, we were awarded—1st Cock, 1st and 2nd Hen, 2nd and 4th Cockerel, 1st Pullet, 1st Pen old, 1st Pen young, which entitled us to the American Houdan Club championship cup, and a beautiful cup offered for best display of Pullets and Cockerels, also several other cups offered, as well as \$25.00 in gold offered by the Association on the best display; best male, best female, best pen.

Indianapolis, Ind., 1913: 1st Cock, 1st and 2nd Hen, 1st and 2nd Cockerel, 1st and 3rd Pullet, 1st Pen, old, 1st Pen, young. In a class of some thirty promising birds we were given everything, save one point on pullet. All specials on crest, color, and shape.

Ohio State Fair, September, 1913: 1st Cock, 1st and 2nd Hen, 1st Pen, old.

---

When in need of anything good  
in the line of eggs or stock  
WRITE ME,

and you will never regret it,

J. L. Metzler,      -      -      -      -      Findlay, Ohio



# HOUDANS.

IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS,

WIGHT BROS.



**R. H. Wight, Optician,**

47 Winter Street, Boston, Massachusetts,

**E. A. Wight, M. D.,**

Bolster's Mills, Maine.

# Houdans as They Should Be

MORE FIRSTS—Pittsburgh Fanciers, Ridgway, Williamsport, and  
Pittsburgh Exposition, THAN ALL COMPETITORS.



[1st Cock, Pittsburgh Fanciers, 1912.]

## STOCK AND EGGS IN SEASON.

Prompt correspondence, quick delivery, and a square deal.

If you want the real thing write for free illustrated circular-mating  
list, with complete winnings

**DR. H. E. DUNNE,**

**Breeder, Exhibitor, and Exporter.**

**State Vice-President, Pennsylvania, 1913.**

**RIDGWAY, PA.**

# MODEL HOUDANS.

Are bred and raised for Vigor, Size, True Type, and  
NATURAL HEAVY LAYING ABILITY.



We have sold blue ribbon winners, and think we can still do so; for any show.

Our own winnings last season were at MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, PITTSBURGH EXPOSITION, HAGERSTOWN, and a few small shows.

Next Spring and early Winter we will have very attractive prices for eggs for hatching.

Lots of young stock, in particular, for sale. Our prices are quite reasonable and our stock doesn't last long. WRITE EARLY.

We have never had a dissatisfied customer.

## HOUDAN YARDS, SEWICKLEY, PENN.

AMERICAN HOUDAN CLUB.

AMERICAN POULTRY ASSOCIATION.



AMERICAN BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

CRESTED FOWL BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.





1st Pen<sup>m</sup>Houdans, Madison Square Garden 1911.  
BRED AND SHOWN BY LLANGOLLEN FARM.

## Llangollen Farm, Great Neck, Long Island.

Breeders and Exhibitors of Highest Class Houdans.

Exhibition and Utility Stock always on hand.

A Number of Choice Breeding Cockerels  
for Sale at Moderate Prices, if Taken Early.

# UNDERWOOD'S HOUDANS

Will not only Win, but Lay.

Note remarks of J. H. Drevenstedt,  
the noted Houdan judge.



A fine type of a Houdan female, crest and beard abundant and shapely, neck full, back long, breast broad and well rounded, body long and deep, (a most characteristic feature; mottling close to standard requirements, the black and white color being well balanced. Houdans of this kind are not only beautiful, but useful. They have the bodies that make good layers and great table fowl.—*J. H. Drevenstedt.*

Of course you are interested in this class of Houdans. Our booklet and mating list free.

**JOHN A. UNDERWOOD,**

HOUDANS ONLY.

PENN YAN, N. Y.

A cordial invitation is extended to all members of American Club to visit my plant, any day except Sunday.



CHIEF — Wins firsts wherever shown.  
Has five firsts to his credit.

## HARTZELL HOUDANS.

Bred for Utility  
and Exhibiting.

**E. D. HARTZELL**  
Rossville, Kansas.

Life Member A. P. A.  
Vice-Pres. A. H. Club.

My strain have been  
very carefully selected  
from show birds and  
egg producers. . . .  
Winners wherever  
shown. . . . .

## Wheat's Houdans

Are justly famed for uniformity in  
size shape and color, being care-  
fully bred and well up to Standard.  
Winning wherever shown. Last  
year a cock in the hands of one of  
our customers won six **FIRSTS**.  
Stock for sale. Eggs in season.

**Wheat Bros.,**  
**Treadwell, New York.**



# Rogers Houdans

Have won for myself and in the hands of my customers wherever shown. They are the long backed deep bodied kind, of good size, with good comb and crest and good color. Healthy, vigorous, and splendid layers. ❀ ❀ ❀

A few fine cockerels for sale. ❀

Eggs in season. ❀

**Satisfaction Guaranteed. Correspondence Solicited.**

**Norman L. Rogers,**

920 Central Ave., / / St. Johns, Oregon.

---

**J. R Taylor,**

**Laconia, New Hampshire.**

**Breeder of**



**Houdans Exclusively.**

**Fancy and Utility.**

**Stock for Sale.**

**Hatching eggs in Season.**

# The Houdan's Home

Williamstown, New York.

I Have Some of the Good Ones.

Ralph W. Cagwin,       =       =       =       Proprietor.



Yours, for Houdans worth while,  
DR. G. G. BILLMAN,       -       -       -       Sullivan, Indiana.

# REID'S HOUDANS

## WON AT STATE FAIR, 1913

5 Firsts, 4 Seconds, 2 Specials,  
for BEST COCK, BEST HEN, 1st PULLET.

Someone said :—

*“PRINCESS LOUISE IS A DREAM.”*

YARD IV. Special for black crests tipped with white.

MRS. EMMA F. REID,  
R. 4, BOX 54, - - - SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA.

---

## Bridlemere Poultry Yards.

# HOUDANS.

Winners at Boston, Mass., Brockton, Mass., New  
Haven, Conn., New London, Conn., Springfield, Mass.

Stock and Eggs from  
Prize Winning Birds.

Medfield, - - - Mass.



# **Abernethy's Houdans**

**Bred for Quality.**

They have won at Madison Square Garden, Boston, Philadelphia, Hagerstown, and other large shows.

## **THEY HAVE THE WINNING HABIT.**

If you want the **BEST** in Houdans write me.

I can furnish winners, and birds mated to produce winners. The **UTILITY** qualities of my stock have not been neglected, and they are good layers of large, white eggs.

**"GOOD WINNERS, GOOD LOOKERS, GOOD LAYERS."**

## **BETTER BUY THE BEST.**

I guarantee full satisfaction in every deal.

**Correspondence Promptly Attended to.**

**Jas. Abernethy,**

**Box C, West Pembroke, Maine.**

# ARNOLD'S HOUDANS.

1st, 2d, and 3d Cockerel,  
Madison Square, 1913.  
Only 3 entries.

EGGS AND STOCK SENT TO  
ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD

CAPT. CHAS. E. ARNOLD,

BABYLON, L. I., N. Y.

---

## JOHN E. RHOADS,

JOHNSTOWN, PA.,

BREEDER AND EXHIBITOR OF

**HOUDANS and WHITE CRESTED  
BLACK POLISH.**

Large vigorous, heavy laying birds that win in the strongest competition. Satisfaction guaranteed. STOCK, OLD and YOUNG ALWAYS ON HAND. Write for descriptive circular. Being a breeder of exhibition stock there are no ill colored, bad shaped crests or duck footed birds in any of my yards. All buildings being sanitary in every respect, and birds are raised on free range, high up on the mountains, with plenty of shade and spring water. If others fail—

**Rhoads' Strain Will Please You.**

**DANIEL P. SHOVE, Fall River, Mass.**

## **Houdans and Rhode Island Reds.**

**Have been breeding HOUDANS since 1882,  
and Judging since 1898.**

Can furnish good birds at reasonable prices.  
Would be glad to have anyone looking for good  
stock write me.

Have a few dates open for judging. Better write  
for terms.    ✕ . ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕ ✕

---

## **Twenty Years a Breeder of HOUDANS.**

Ten years have shown them at Big Shows.  
First President of American Houdan Club.

Eggs in season, \$3.00 per 15.

No birds for sale in 1913.

Licensed Houdan Judge of the American Poultry  
Association.

Yours, for better Houdans and a better Houdan Standard

**FRANK W. MCKENZIE,    =:    Concord, Michigan.**



**Charles E. Hendrickson, Jr.**

55 East Front St.,

**RED BANK, N. J.**

**HOUDAN EGGS**

NO STOCK FOR SALE.

**HOUDANS**

**CAMPINES,  
ANCONAS.**

**The Very Best.**

**CHAS. L. GILPIN,**

HAVERFORD, PA.

PERFECTION STRAIN

**HOUDANS**

BOSTON and NEW YORK WINNERS.

**Also, Golden, Silver, and  
English Pheasants.**

**Stock and Eggs  
for Sale.**

**MISS MINNIE BLAGDEN,**

ROWLEY, MASS.



Electric Cars Pass Door.

**Daniel R. Stitsel,**

BREEDER OF

FAULTLESS,  
INDUSTRIOUS

**HOUDANS.**

EGGS AND STOCK FOR SALE.

Member of American Houdan Club.

921 KIRKBRIDE ST.,  
N. S. PITTSBURGH, PA.

**O. W. HOLTON,**

BREEDER OF

**HOUDANS**

AND

**SILVER CAMPINES,**

*(Kennedy Strain,)*

*Catasauqua, Pa.*

**Cohocton  
Houdan  
Yards,**

*Painted Post, N. Y.,*

BREEDER OF

**High Class Houdans,**

**A. H. WOOD, Prop.**

**HOUDANS**

LARGE SIZE,  
DARK COLOR.

Winners at Rochester  
meeting of the American  
H o u d a n C l u b .

**DR. C. J. ANDRUSS,**

**Canandaigua, N. Y.**

**HOUDANS**

The kind that lay the large  
white eggs that make the  
"H o u d a n" famous.

Always bred from large healthy  
standard hens, insuring strong  
healthy stock.    ∴    ∴    ∴

**WINNERS AT CHICAGO and  
ELGIN, 1910 and 1912.**

**Stock.    Eggs.**

**C. J. LANCASTER,**

**Maywood, Illinois.**

## HOUDANS

Eggs for Hatching,  
*\$3.00 for 15.*

### Fertility Guaranteed.

My Houdans are from  
prize winning strains.  
Address all mail to—

**P. L. WASCHER,**

307 HILL AVENUE,

CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS.

Mention Year Book  
when you write.

**MRS. A.B. MacGREGER,**

BREEDER OF

## HOUDANS

ALSO,

**SINGLE COMB  
BUFF ORPINGTONS.**

Stock and Eggs for Sale.

DOVER, MASS.

**W. J. THAYER**

PENN YAN, N. Y.

## HOUDANS ANCONAS

**FAWN AND  
WHITE RUNNER DUCKS**

Winners at Rochester,  
Geneva, N. Y.,  
and 1913 New York State Fair.

Prices Right. Write Me  
**STOCK AND EGGS.**

OUR

## HOUDANS

*Are Winners  
and Layers.*

Eggs for Hatching from  
Houdans and Columbian  
Wyandottes.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

Write your wants ;  
we can please you.

**PILLON BROS.,**

WHIPPANY, N. J.

Box 12.



**PURSELL'S  
HOUDANS and CORNISH**

Birds of Merit. Quality and Utility.



We are Quality.

**IMPORTERS AND BREEDERS.  
STOCK AND EGGS FOR SALE.**

OUR AIM IS THE TOP.

**J. P. and R. D. PURSELL,**  
Grand View, Sellersville, Pa.

**SPRINGMAN'S  
HOUDANS.**

Handsome Fowls, Great Layers,  
Winners Wherever Shown.

Look up my show records, 1910-13.  
Limited number of Stock and Eggs  
for sale. **PRICES RIGHT.**

**G HARVEY SPRINGMAN,**  
WILLIAMSPORT, -:- PENNA.

**GRAND LAYING  
FRANCOIS HOUDANS.**

**BUY THEM OF**

**E. L. SWEETSER,**  
959 Emmett St., Schenectady, N. Y.

**Eggs, \$3.00 per Setting.**

**HOUDANS and BRAEKELS**

*MY*  
**HOUDANS**

**ARE LINE BRED,  
LARGE DARK BIRDS ;**

**bred to lay as well  
as to show. -:- -:-**

**38 YEARS A HOUDAN BREEDER.**

**EGGS IN SEASON.**

**STOCK A MATTER OF COR-  
RESPONDENCE.**

**CHET L. DEAN,**  
El Paso, - - - Texas.

**HOUDANS**

**C. B. CAMPBELL,**  
206 North Park Ave.,  
BUFFALO, N. Y.

**JAMESON BROTHERS**  
SKANEATELES, N. Y.

**HOUDANS**

**Silver Grey Dorkings.**

**We Believe We Have the Best Strains  
in America,**

**Yet Our Prices Are Moderate.**



## BAST'S HOUDANS

GIVE  
SATISFACTION.

Write ; I'll convince you.

W. F. BAST,

PHILLIPSBURG, - NEW JERSEY.

THOROUGHbred  
HOUDANS  
FROM BLUE  
RIBBON WINNERS.

Your correspondence solicited for  
prices.

L. N. BARR,

ORION, - - - MICHIGAN.

## ADVERTISE

YOURSELF,  
The HOUDAN,  
The CLUB.

Use one of these cuts on  
your stationery, tags, la-  
bels, envelopes, &c. Sold  
only to members.

American Houdan Club,

J. A. Underwood, Secy,  
PENN YAN, N. Y.



This Size, 85c.



This Size, 75c.



This Size, 50c.







